

Happy Fall Greetings Cologne Academy Families!

With conferences approaching soon, I thought I would write a little about conference day expectations for families. First, your time with your teacher(s) will go very fast. We have to honor everyone's scheduled conference time so please know that if you still have a conference conversation to continue with the teacher that this can be scheduled at a mutually convenient time in the near future. My hope is that any major concerns you have had about your child has already been initially discussed with the teacher. The purpose of October conferences is to discuss progress thus far and provide a road map and goals for the remainder of the school year.

At conferences you will receive your child's SLP (Student Learning Plan). This document details the growth we would like to see occur during this academic school year. There will be a math, reading, and behavioral goal. The SLP allows the student, home, and school to be unified in our collective purpose. These goals are just dreams until all parties invest in them and work towards the goals. This SLP does not record all student learning, nor does it detail all assessments. This is a living and working document that helps to show progress and keep team accountability as the year continues. We use it as our internal gauge to document teacher effectiveness as recorded through student assessment. This allows academic leaders to coach in the present and make adjustments in real time. This is also the reason for our school's early release days. After students take the interim assessments, the school must turn around and plan for the next 6 weeks of lesson plans based on the data analysis of the interim at the class, individual, and test item level.

Research on brain development confirms that cognitive growth does not occur in all children at the same rate or at same time or even at the same level. Therefore, we rely on historical student growth to set your student's goals. There will be conversations with some that prove that when we set the bar high, students can reach our aim line. Others learn at a different pace. What is important is that we catch all students at that "just right moment" to capture as many ah-has (light bulb moments) as we can. Learning is fun.

Have you ever worked hard for a goal, have you ever coached yourself through some tough lessons, practiced perseverance, toed the line and/or started the race? It is very important that school and parents approach interim testing as an opportunity to show what we know. Just like a sporting event, piano/dance recital, school concert, it is a snapshot into their scholar lives that demonstrates their work and perseverance over the past six weeks. Our interim tests are created in-house; these are NOT norm referenced tests nor are these ceiling tests, which means that the tests are not meant to be scored at the traditional percentiles. As we determine the rigor of the standards, there are test variations. Therefore, if your child scores 60% on the 4th interim in math, we may be thrilled. 60% doesn't mean "D". A 60% may be the top score in the grade! This is a different frame of reference than what most parents are used to seeing.

Help your child be successful by encouraging them to just do their best. Learning is like a ladder and must be climbed one rung at a time. Emphasize that we get smarter every day and with work and effort, all can achieve!

Lynn G. Peterson, Ed. S.  
Executive Director  
[lpeterson@cologneacademy.org](mailto:lpeterson@cologneacademy.org)

## Fall Parent Teacher Conferences

Cologne Academy Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Tuesday, October 17 from 4:00-8:00 pm and Wednesday, October 18 from 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

### Grades K-2

Please sign up with your homeroom teacher [here](#)

### **Grades 3-8**

Please sign up with your MUM (Math) and MUR (Reading) teacher [here](#)

History, Science, Writing teachers will be available in their classrooms. Specialists (art, music, physical education, Spanish) will also be available.

We look forward to seeing you at conferences!

### **Conference Teacher Meals:**

If you would like to help, sign up [here](#)

**Reminder: No School October 18-19-20.**

### **Clubhouse During Fall Break**

Clubhouse will be open on Wednesday, October 18 and Thursday, October 19 during Fall Break. Hours are 6:30 am - 6:00 pm. Clubhouse will remain at Cologne Academy both days where there will be crafts, games, gym time, and other activities. All students should be dressed for the weather as time will be spent outdoors. Please send snack/s and a home lunch.

To register, please log into your Boonli account, choose the Clubhouse menu and select the day(s) you need for your child/ren. Registration closes at the end of the school day on October 17. Cost is \$25 per day for each child who pre-registers by pre-paying in Boonli; \$30 if you do not pre-register by the deadline. Contact Cathy with any questions at [ckerber@cologneacademy.org](mailto:ckerber@cologneacademy.org).

### **CA Spiritwear Available October 16-30**

Spiritwear and uniforms will be available for purchase starting on Monday, October 16. Click [here](#) for more information. Items ordered will be delivered in early December and make great gifts.

### **Lunch**

Lunch ordering for the month of November is open through October 23.

Help Wanted: We are in need of lunch servers on Tuesdays.

Interested in serving lunch, but can't commit to a weekly schedule? Sign up to be a substitute lunch server.

Contact Cathy Kerber at [ckerber@cologneacademy.org](mailto:ckerber@cologneacademy.org) if you are interested in becoming a lunch server or lunch sub or would like more information.

## Bus Conduct Form

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Cologne Transportation Services (CTS) led bus safety training for all students the first week of school.

All families are being asked to follow-up with your child(ren) and verify that you and your child(ren) have read the bus rules by signing the CA Bus Code of Conduct. [Click here to sign.](#)

Thank you for helping us keep our students safe on the bus!

## Lion's Club Peace Poster Contest (6th grade)

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Each year Cologne Academy 6th graders participate in the International Lions Peace Poster Contest. This contest invites students to creatively express what peace means to them. The 2017-2018 contest theme is "The Future of Peace". This contest allows students to share their unique image of peace with others, so that we may all have greater tolerance and international understanding.

Participants and their families are invited and encouraged to attend the Cologne Lions meeting on October 24, 2017 and 7:00 p.m. at the Cologne Community Center (next door to Cologne Academy). This gives students the opportunity to share their poster and thoughts with the Lions members and is a great opportunity to spotlight CA students in the community. Contact Ms. Blotz at [mblotz@cologneacademy.org](mailto:mblotz@cologneacademy.org) if you have questions.

## Veteran's Day Program

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Cologne Academy's Veteran's Day Program will be held on Friday, November 10 at 2:30 pm in the CA Gym.

This is a wonderful program honoring all of our Veterans and we invite all of our CA families to attend.

### We need your photos!

If you have a special serviceman/woman that you would like to honor in our Veteran's Day program please click [here](#) for a photo submission form (or pick up a form up in the main office) to submit with a photograph. The photo will be included in the PowerPoint presentation during the Veteran's Day program.

Please submit photos with a completed [photo form](#) to Carla Riemer at [criemer@cologneacademy.org](mailto:criemer@cologneacademy.org) at your earliest convenience\*.

**\*Photo submission DEADLINE is Monday November 6, 2017.\* If you had pictures in the slideshow from last year, we will be able to reuse your photos.**

## Can Trailer

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Our can trailer is in need of emptying. Please contact Jackie Nordick at [jnordick@cologneacademy.org](mailto:jnordick@cologneacademy.org) if you are able to help. Thank you!

## Student Picture Retake Day

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Lifetouch will be here on Friday, November 10, to take student photos. Students that were absent on September 27 and any students wishing to have picture retakes\* will have their photo taken.

**Students having a photo taken are allowed to come to school out of uniform, but must change into their uniform after their photo is taken.**

\*Students requesting retakes should bring their original photo package to return to the photographer. If a uniform is not brought, parents will be called to bring a uniform.

## Give to the Max Day

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Give to the Max Day is November 16, 2017.

Please help CA meet our 2017 goal of raising \$20,000. Online giving starts November 1 and continues through November 16.

### **School Wide Incentives:**

\$15,000 - All students will receive an 'out of uniform' day!

\$20,000 - All students will receive an additional day off from school on Monday, April 2, 2018!

These fundraising efforts are used to support our academic rigor and achievement endeavors. Cologne Academy thanks you for your support!

## Lost and Found - Please Label Belongings

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Please label all clothing and personal belongings including lunch bags, water bottles, backpacks, calculators, band instruments, etc. We do our best to reunite items with their owner if an item is labeled. If your child has lost something please encourage him/her to check lost and found located in the hall outside the cafeteria.

## From the Counseling Office

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October is National Antbullying Month. Student Leaders will be doing a presentation at the OSA. Each classroom will receive a message tied into their core virtue time.

MS students will be participating in Positive Locker Messages again this year. All student will be covering their lockers in paper during Art and Choir on Oct. 12 & 13. On October 16 & 17 students will have the opportunity to write positive phrases of encouragement and kindness. At the end of the week students have the option to bring their messages home.

October 25 is Unity Day. Wear Orange to support the end of bullying and to spread the message of inclusion. Each student is invited to wear an orange top and uniform bottoms.

## Informational Meeting & Tour

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Monday, November 6  
6:30 pm  
CA Cafeteria

Please share our next informational meeting & tour with your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or anyone that would like to learn more about our school.

## PAVE

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Next Meeting: Monday, October 30 at 6:30 pm.  
Join us, you are a member of PAVE!

### Trunk or Treat

Join our school community for CA's annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 27 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Please fill out an entry form [here](#) or email PAVE at [pave@cologneacademy.org](mailto:pave@cologneacademy.org) to enroll your trunk into the fun competition! There will be prizes in several categories for trunks!

Don't want to decorate a trunk? Please consider donating candy and treats to PAVE so that there is not a sole burden of treating hundreds of kids from the trunk decorators alone.

PAVE is sponsoring this night along with grade level hosts. There will be a food truck, games, trunk or treating, friends, and other activities.

**Please join us - you will be glad you did!**

## Free Schoolway App

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Don't forget to sign up for Schoolway notifications. This free app (Apple or Android) will send reminders directly to your phone.

SchoolWay's Web App allows you to stay up to date even without a smart phone.  
Click [here](#).

## From the Health Office

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### Policy

Per policy, if your child has a temperature over 100 degrees, vomits, or has diarrhea, you will be called to pick him/her up. They will need to remain home until they are fever-free without medication and/or have not experienced vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.

All medication sent to school for students must be in the original labeled container along with a completed and signed medication request form from the parent and their physician.

All Action Plans for asthma, allergies, and seizures must be updated every year at the beginning of

the school year.

Need **immunizations**? Carver County Public Health offers low cost immunizations for those without insurance coverage for vaccinations.

Click **HERE** to go to the website for information.

Thank you,

Nurse Mary

[nurse@cologneacademy.org](mailto:nurse@cologneacademy.org)

### **Scheduled Early Release Dates for 2017-2018**

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The next scheduled early release is Friday, November 3 (this is **NOT** the same as an unexpected early release day - those are days when students are sent home early unexpectedly due to weather, power outage, or another unforeseen event).

Your child will be sent home via their normal Friday end of day plan unless you notify the school otherwise. If your child is riding the bus, you can expect them to arrive approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes earlier than normal.

### **Scheduled Early Release days for 2017-18**

Friday, November 3, 2017

Friday, January 19, 2018

Friday, March 23, 2018

Friday, May 25, 2018