

Cologne Academy

Your Future Starts Here

February 2018

Dear Cologne Academy Families-

With conferences next week, I would like to give parents another reminder about what teachers will be discussing with you. Each student has a Student Learning Plan (SLP). This is the school's guiding document around progress and growth. This document helps to facilitate conversations around your child's math and reading goals and also allows us to enter conversations about the social and emotional aspect of your child's day at school. The SLP is one way that we can chart growth. The SLP is not the only measure that is used to assess growth.

The SLP is unique and can be startling if you are unsure of the metrics the school utilizes. For example, the SLPs are based off of your child's performance on our interims each quarter. The first interim takes place the first week of school and is also used as our end-of-year assessment. We utilize this score as a baseline entry point. Based off of previous years expected outcomes the school makes a growth goal for each child. When you see scores between 0% and 20%, our first reaction is, "My child is failing!" The next test the student may have achieved an 80% and then the next interim your child is back to 30%. You start to panic and think that your child is failing and sinking fast! This is NOT the case.

Keep reading to understand this process and metrics- Here is what research says about learning and intellect- You can change your IQ! With hard work, perseverance, amazing curriculum, and spectacular teaching your child does get smarter every day and each year.

CA's goal in creating our interims (Math K-8 and reading assessments once STEP is completed) is to create an interim with no ceiling, meaning scholars will not score 100%. We add depth of knowledge (DOK) questions that tap the upper echelons of inquiry and thought. Students gain these abilities with brain maturity and exposure. We want critical thinkers and problem solvers. In the lower elementary grades, we are in the midst of a revision process. Our students are getting smarter; therefore we have created more challenging assessments. What does this mean for the SLP? You may see some dips and/or climbs in percentages. With new assessments, we have to go through a few cycles to establish norms, test reliability, and validity.

Here is the difference. When one takes a spelling test, 19 out of 20 is a 95%. This percentage makes logical sense. A student on a math interim may receive a 40% and teacher will say- "this is right on track." Behind the scenes, we look at individual question analysis to see what standards need more reteach and to what DOK level students are achieving. Every child is on a different

Upcoming Events

February 12 & 15
4:00-8:00 PM Conferences

February 14
7:15 AM All Star Moms

February 16
End of Trimester
No School

February 19
No School

February 23
College T-shirt Day
OSA 2:40

February 26-March 2
Pennies for Patients

February 28
Lifetouch Spring Photos
(optional)

March 2
Read-a-Thon

PAVE Meeting

Next Meeting
February 27
6:30 pm
Join us!

growth pattern and it's our goal to be ready to teach when the student is able to learn and climb the next rung.

We understand the confusion this creates, but if we understand the process and the why behind the numbers it makes more sense. We do strive to make the SLP clear and understandable and we also strive to improve student achievement. Together we are making a difference. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Please let me know how I can assist further after conferences.

Lynn G. Peterson, Ed. S.
Executive Director
lpeterson@cologneacademy.org

2018/2019 Enrollment for Current Families

*****Open enrollment for next school year ends February 16*****

If you will have a kindergarten student next year (or new student in grade 1-8), be sure to turn in an enrollment form prior to February 16. Forms received after that date will be subject to the lottery. **(Currently enrolled students need not re-apply.)**

Please direct questions to the main office.

Conferences

Conferences will be held Monday, February 12 from 4:00-8:00 pm and Thursday, February 15 from 4:00-8:00 pm.

Grades K-2: Please sign up with Homeroom teacher
Grades 3-8: Please sign up with MUM (Math) teacher and MUR (Reading) teacher

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!
<http://signup.com/go/YFBUEbv>

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found will be donated after conferences. Please take a look through the many sweatshirts, hats, mittens, water bottles, etc. during conferences.

School Board & Finance Meeting

Next Meeting
February 27
Finance Meeting 7:15 pm
Board Meeting 7:30 pm

Upcoming Knowledge Bowl Meets

February 13
Northdale Middle School
Coon Rapids
4:00 pm

Scheduled Early Releases:

Friday, March 23, 2018
Friday, May 25, 2018

Follow Us

Facebook
Twitter
Instagram

End of Trimester Note:

Infinite Campus will not be available February 12-16. IC will open again on February 17.

SchoolWay App

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](#).

Science Fair Results:

1st Place Overall - Quinn Johander 7th grade - Effect of Wifi on plant growth

2nd Place Overall - Ben Schefers 5th grade - Comparison of Sugar in Brands of Pop

3rd Place Overall - Thomas Gilmore 5th grade - Effect of Caffeine on Teeth

Grade Level Winners

7th Grade

1st Place: Reese Holmstrom - Comparison of Garbage Bag Strength; Kate Miller - Effectiveness of Laundry Detergents; Jonas Klatt - Comparison of Insulated Mugs

2nd Place: Krislyn Gness - Effect of Music on Heart Rate; Makayla Smoak - Effect of Heat and Cold on Tornado Strength; Ben Hagen - Comparison of Carbonation in Pop

3rd Place: Alex Lang - Do Dogs Prefer Chilled Water; Alyssa Bartholomew - Comparison of Bacteria in Humans and Dogs; Allie Rasmussen - Testing Fat Content of Ground Beef

5th Grade

1st Place: Paige Johander - Which Slime is Stretchiest (Letson); Jadie Rosenlund - Which Product Melts Ice Fastest (Friedrich); Violet Holtberg - Catfood Testing (Klehr)

2nd Place: Bryson Rotz - Effect of Baking Soda on Pancakes (Letson); Cayden Olson - Can People Tell the Difference between Bottle and Tap Water? (Friedrich); Julianna Ratts - Rethink Your Drink - Effect of Acid on Egg Shells (Klehr)

3rd Place: Tanner Gutzke: Comparison of Garbage Bag Strength (Letson); Ariya Viravong: What's Popping? Does Temperature Affect Popcorn? (Friedrich); Kelly Schmicking - Which Soda is the Fizziest? (Klehr)

Congratulations to everyone!

Art Show Results:

1st place Award: Amélie Beresford

2nd place Award: Kellan Modlin

3rd place Award: Katie Mielke

2017/2018 Calendar

Available on the CA website.
Click [HERE](#)

Wanted: Lunch Servers & Lunch Subs

Please
contact ckerber@cologneacademy.org

if you can help. Thank you!

Viewers Choice Award; Best in show: Kate Beatty-
Photoreal painting Family

The Michelangelo Award; best form: Emily Labo

The Joan Mire Award; best organic shape: Allison
Wurtzberger

The Leonardo de Vinci Award; most inventive: Maiya Labo

The Jackson Pollock Award; most active lines: Gabrielle
Kennedy

The Henri Rousseau Award; self taught artist: Zachary Miller

The Gustav Klimt Award; most engaging texture: Bryson
Rotz

The Alexander Calder Award; Best sculpture: Stella Clough

The Chuck Close Award; Most realistic artwork: Victoria
Mitchell

The Georgia O' Keeffe Award; Best choice of subject
matter: Parker Hughes

The Monet Award; Best use of color: Ender Theisen

Congratulations to everyone!

2017/2018 Yearbook

Our 2017-2018 Cologne Academy yearbooks can be purchased for only \$18.49! Place your order online at www.TreeRing.com and use passcode: 1013230390864254 or search for Cologne Academy to order.

Each yearbook includes two free pages that can be customized by you to add a personalized memory of the year. These pages will only be printed in your yearbook. Deadline for the customized pages is April 10. Start designing today!

We are also looking for parents who are interested in helping take photos throughout the year in the classroom, at sporting events, and other school functions.

If you have questions or would like to submit yearbook photos, please contact Deb Ries at dries@cologneacademy.org

Pennies for Patients

Get ready for CA's 6th year supporting Pennies for Patients! This initiative will run Feb. 26th- March 2nd.

Students will get daily coin challenges. The challenge is to bring in as many as you can!

Monday: Pennies

Tuesday: Nickels

Wednesday: Dimes

Thursday: Quarters

Friday: \$3 to wear a HAT to school!

Friendly competition will be between K-4 classrooms, and 5-8th. The two top classrooms will receive a non uniform day.

CA Penny Goal: \$4,000 to support cancer and leukemia patients and friends in our community. **Together we can!**

Spring Photos (optional)

Lifetouch will be at Cologne Academy to take spring photos on Wednesday, February 28 if you wish to purchase a spring photo package for your child. A flyer should have come home this week with your child. Click [here](#) for information to order online. Picture Day ID: MI397045Y0

Students having their photo taken may come to school out of uniform, but must bring their uniform to change into after their photo is taken.

Third Annual Pi Day Competition 3-14

Who can remember the most digits of Pi? Last year's winner memorized 185 digits!

To enter, submit your name to your homeroom teacher or to Ms. Ukaegbu.

Rules:

- Open to Grades 4-8: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winner for each grade.
- You may write as you recite the digits of Pi (no pre-writing).
- Each person has one chance. Missed/incorrect digit eliminates or places contestant.

3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197169399375105

Art Department News

Students are getting ready to create Square 1 Art Masterpieces in art class. Square 1 Art is our art department's fundraiser where you are able to purchase a variety of fun items with your child's unique artwork displayed on them.

Items will arrive just before Mother's day, and in plenty of time for Father's day! You can also save items for the Holidays, because they make great gifts for family.

Check out the Square 1 Art website [here](#) to see the wonderful keepsakes available to you!

Students Arriving Late or Leaving Early

For our students' safety, ALL students must be signed in and/or out in the office by their parent/guardian if they arrive late or leave early ([office staff will call for your child/ren when you arrive](#)) or are picked up from the office at the end of the day.

Snow Days

We all know that it is that time of the year in Minnesota when parents and staff must be prepared for the possibility of delayed start, early release, or school closing due to weather.

In the event of questionable weather, the following are ways to stay informed:

- SchoolWay notification (this is the quickest way for you to know what is happening - the app is free!)
- Email from Main Office
- Watch for 'Cologne Academy' on WCCO, KSTP or KARE11 for weather related announcements.
- We will also post on the CA website and CA Parent Facebook page

Important Unexpected Early Release Information

It is extremely important that you are aware of the plan you put in place for your child(ren) at the start of the school year, bus or carline (Clubhouse will NOT be available), should we need to send students home early.

We respectfully request that you use the communications methods listed for information and announcements regarding weather related school closings and avoid phoning the school office during inclement weather or announced early releases unless it is absolutely necessary.

Chaska High School

Chaska High School offers a "Shadow Day" to 8th graders who are planning to or are considering attending Chaska High School in 9th grade. This year, the host Shadow Day is Friday, March 16th from 7:40 to 10:40am.

RSVP to Katie LoScalzo by Friday, March 9th.

(952) 556-7141 | chs.district112.org | loscalzok@district112.org

February Core Virtue: Loyalty

Please use FRONTDESK@cologneacademy.org to report absences, tardies, early pick-ups, and current school day changes to end of day transportation for your child(ren). Please include student's full name, grade, and details of the information being emailed.

www.cologneacademy.org