

Annual Report 2023-2024









Inspiring Joy in Learning, Citizenship in Action, and Virtue in Character for More Than 20 Years

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INTRODUCTION

Vision Statement

Eagle Ridge Academy will offer an academically rigorous, time-tested, Classical liberal arts curriculum that:

- prepares students to be exemplary and knowledgeable citizens;
- instills a life-long passion for learning;
- values self-discipline, respect, perseverance, and:
- fosters an appreciation for the United States of America and her unique role in the world.

Eagle Ridge Academy is a K-12 Classical collegepreparatory charter school. Eagle Ridge Academy is focused on providing a rigorous academic foundation that works in conjunction with the school's Pillars and Latin motto *Probitas, Veritas, Pulchritudo*: Goodness, Truth, and Beauty. The following virtues constitute the school's Pillars: Citizenship, Integrity, Perseverance, Honor, Excellence, and Respect. The school's motto identifies in Latin the central tenets of the school. Using these virtues and tenets as foundations, Eagle Ridge Academy is able to fulfill its mission.

Eagle Ridge Academy is delineated into three schools representative of the three stages of the Trivium: the School of Grammar (K-4), the School of Logic (5-8), and the School of Rhetoric (9-12).

Grades four and eight serve a special role as the transitional years: Grade four is the transitional year between the School of Grammar and the School of Logic, and grade eight is the transitional year between the School of Logic and the School of Rhetoric.

Eagle Ridge Academy strives to incorporate aspects of all three stages of the Trivium in each of the three schools, to varying degrees as appropriate in each school, in order to help students learn the grammar-level information of a particular discipline, understand the logical reasoning behind particular disciplines, and work on the art of speaking and writing articulately with adequate reasoning and support. Upon completion of their education at Eagle Ridge Academy, students will be exemplary and knowledgeable citizens who have been instilled with a life-long passion for learning; value self-discipline, respect, perseverance, and achievement; search for goodness, beauty, and truth; and foster an appreciation for the United States of America and her unique role in the world.

School Mission

The mission of Eagle Ridge Academy is to engage all students in a time-tested, Classical Liberal Arts education that demands their best in academic achievement and honorable character while challenging them to attain their highest potential.



School of Logic sixth graders had the opportunity to connect with School of Grammar first graders by reading books to them in the school library during National Reading Month in March.

EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY opened in 2004 with 107 students in grades 6, 7, and 9. Today, Eagle Ridge Academy serves 1,550 students from 29 school districts in kindergarten through grade 12.

The Eagle Ridge Academy Schools of Grammar and Logic have rigorous curricula to ensure high achievement: Core Knowledge Sequence, Amplify CKLA, and Saxon Math. The School of Rhetoric offers a wide variety of Advanced Placement classes, Latin, Spanish, Music, Arts, Math, and the Humane Letters. Along with rigorous curriculum, Eagle Ridge Academy provides small class sizes and professional master teachers, which lead to our students achieving high academic results. Eagle Ridge Academy offers numerous extracurricular activities in cooperation with the International School of Minnesota and other partner schools.

In 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 Eagle Ridge Academy students scored in the top 2% of all public K-12 schools on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment. For 2017 and 2018 we were still in the top 5%; after having a slight decline in reading in 2017, our state test scores in reading had a significant increase, and in 2019, our math scores had again increased to over 80% proficiency. In 2024, we outpaced the average state test score by at least 15%.

We are proud of our students and staff for their achievements; however, producing graduates who are exemplary citizens and life-long learners is our foremost goal.

Accolades









2023-2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2023-2024 school year was a year of adjusting to new students and staff. While schools throughout the nation attempted to "get back to normal," at Eagle Ridge Academy, we were determined to take our education and teacher development to the next level.

Eagle Ridge Academy ended the year with our highest enrollment ever of 1,535 students.

Eagle Ridge Academy continued to outpace the average Minnesota school district: this year, by 23% in math, 15% in reading, and 19% in science on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments.

Eagle Ridge Academy was not designated as a High-Quality Charter School by the Minnesota Department of Education because we did not receive the finance award.

Our retention rate for teachers in a truly challenging year was 87%.

We also maintained a fund balance of 38% and had an annual surplus of more than \$200,000, while receiving 20% less per student than our neighboring school districts.



At the annual end-of-year district meeting, Eagle Ridge Academy handed out three awards for the first time -- a wooden torch and plaque honoring TWENTY years of service to the Academy. Erin Johnson, Lisa Johnson, and Carolyn Sommers Tillotson were honored for giving two decades of service to the Academy.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND ATTRITION

Eagle Ridge Academy is dedicated to providing a quality education without cost. As a charter school, Eagle Ridge Academy provides a Classical college-prep education for all students. Eagle Ridge Academy follows all Minnesota statutes as they relate to application and admission procedures for public schools. Eagle Ridge Academy does not discriminate in any way.

Enrollment is open to all students residing in any Minnesota school district. Eagle Ridge Academy will accept all applications without question, unless the child does not meet the minimum age requirement for kindergarten as set by the School Board prior to the application period. For the 2023-2024 school year, a child was required to be five on or before September 1, 2023, in order to begin kindergarten.

For the 2023-2024 school year, Eagle Ridge Academy had an open enrollment period from October 1, 2023 to January 15, 2024. All procedures and timing in regard to its enrollment period are posted on www.eagleridgeacademy.org/apply.

All applications are submitted electronically and are date- and time-stamped throughout the process. Eagle Ridge Academy held a public randomized lottery in January of 2024. The lottery is used to determine placement if spots are available in a grade level for the upcoming school year.

Those who are not selected are placed on a waiting list determined by their lottery placement. As permitted by Minnesota Statute 124E.10, Eagle Ridge Academy offers preference to families with currently enrolled students and to children of staff.

In order to get this preference, parents must submit an application during the open enrollment period. Preference is not given for any other reason. Applications received after the open enrollment period are placed at the bottom of the waitlist in the order they are received and are considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Enrollment History

Eagle Ridge Academy opened in 2004 with 107 students in grades 6, 7, and 9. In 2007-2008, student enrollment grew to 282 students and included grades 6-12. In 2010-2011, Eagle Ridge Academy added two sections of each grade, kindergarten through fifth, with a total enrollment of 567 students. The next year, 2011-2012, a third section of kindergarten through fifth grade was added for a total enrollment of 791 students. In 2016-2017, the Academy added about 400 students, and in 2017-2018, the Academy added another 200. ERA is currently experiencing vertical growth in grades 8-12.

While the increased student population has moved us toward our goal of increasing the number of students in the Upper School, we experienced growing pains in operations, student behavior, and small-school feel.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND ATTRITION

Enrollment Demographics and Geography

Projected Enrollment by Grade Level:

Grade	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Kindergarten	138	138	138
Grade 1	138	138	138
Grade 2	138	138	138
Grade 3	138	138	138
Grade 4	138	138	138
Grade 5	138	138	138
Grade 6	135	135	138
Grade 7	125	121	125
Grade 8	125	116	125
Grade 9	118	95	110
Grade 10	85	101	100
Grade 11	70	71	90
Grade 12	63	61	67
Total	1,549	1,528	1,583

Students Attended from 35 School Districts:

District Name	Enrollment	Total	%
Eden Prairie	435	1,534	28
Hopkins	254	1,534	17
Shakopee	124	1,534	8
Minneapolis	118	1,534	8
Eastern Carver	98	1,534	6
Bloomington	80	1,534	5
St. Louis Park	55	1,534	4
Robbinsdale	42	1,534	3
Osseo	41	1,534	3
Wayzata	41	1,534	3
Edina	40	1,534	3
Richfield	39	1,534	3
Burnsville	36	1,534	2
Minnetonka	27	1,534	2
Prior Lake	26	1,534	2
Anoka	18	1,534	1



Stoles of Strength and Truth were presented to eleven Class of 2024 students who attended Eagle Ridge Academy for thirteen years, from kindergarten through graduation.

Rosemount	8	1,534	0
Columbia Heights	7	1,534	0
Centennial	5	1,534	0
Lakeville	5	1,534	0
Brooklyn Center	4	1,534	0
New Prague	4	1,534	0
St. Paul	4	1,534	0
Jordan	3	1,534	0
Belle Plain	2	1,534	0
Buffalo	2	1,534	0
Fridley	2	1,534	0
Roseville	2	1,534	0
South St. Paul	2	1,534	0
Waconia	2	1,534	0
Watertown-Mayer	2	1,534	0
West St. Paul	2	1,534	0
Westonka	2	1,534	0
Elk River	1	1,534	0
Farmington	1	1,534	0

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND ATTRITION

Student Enrollment by Group:

Subgroup	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Hispanic/Latino	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%
Native American	.6%	.6%	.4%	.3%	.3%	.1%
Asian	37%	38%	39%	39%	37%	33%
Black	18%	17%	20%	22%	27%	32%
White	41%	37%	34%	32%	33%	31%
Two or More Races	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%
ELL	8%	9%	7%	9%	7%	8%
Free & Reduced	20%	18%	18%	14%	29%	32%
SPED	6%	6%	5%	6%	7%	6%

Student Attrition Rates

The attrition rate has been predictable over the past five years. When reviewing student attrition data, the majority of student attrition is experienced in the School of Rhetoric, specifically from grade eight to nine. The primary reasons, as discovered through family surveys and phone calls, include:

- Wider range of extracurricular activities in local public schools
- More variety in academic programming
- The rigor at Eagle Ridge Academy and high graduation standards

Grades	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
K not returning to 1st	4%	4%	12%	11%	6%	6%
1st not returning to 2nd	5%	5%	10%	8%	6%	13%
2nd not returning to 3rd	7%	8%	8%	15%	5%	10%
3rd not returning to 4th	6%	2%	14%	14%	13%	11%
4th not returning to 5th	5%	9%	12%	10%	14%	12%
5th not returning to 6th	8%	14%	18%	22%	31%	26%
6th not returning to 7th	28%	27%	22%	15%	22%	16%
7th not returning to 8th	18%	16%	19%	12%	14%	16%
8th not returning to 9th	34%	29%	41%	37%	38%	51%
9th not returning to 10th	16%	24%	24%	18%	20%	15%
10th not returning to 11th	5%	12%	12%	20%	13%	25%
11th not returning to 12th	5%	4%	4%	6%	6%	9%
Total	10%	10%	12%	15%	13%	14%

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governance and Management Information

The Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors is responsible for the overall governance of the school. The School Board is the primary decision-making body on matters concerning the development and implementation of all school policies. The Board provides leadership for policy development and oversight, and it provides communication regarding the direction of the school. This is accomplished by adopting policies that the Executive Director, staff, working groups, and volunteers carry out on a day-to-day basis.

In 2022-2023, the Board of Directors adopted a new Strategic Plan which includes goals in the areas of students, faculty, and staff; curriculum and instruction; and community. The goals of this Strategic Plan ensure there is a strong foundation and a healthy Academy to support expansion or replication in the future. The Strategic Plan also embodies the belief that Classical education is for all, that Classical education benefits all, and thus, strives to provide a robust and rigorous Classical education to all it is able.

The management model followed by the Academy provides a balance of efficiency and adequate staffing in all functions of school operations.

The Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors provides oversight of the Executive Director, who is responsible for hiring and managing faculty and staff. The Executive Director is formally evaluated each year. This annual evaluation is based upon feedback from Board members and the Executive Director's direct reports. Goals are established based upon evaluation results as well as the strategic and operational needs of Eagle Ridge Academy.

The Executive Director assumes overall responsibility for personnel, facilities, services, and programs of the school. This includes hiring; supervising and evaluating faculty and staff; collaborating with the Eagle Ridge Academy School Board, parents, and students; implementing policies and procedures; ensuring safety and security; acting as an ex-officio to the Eagle Ridge Academy School Board; and representing Eagle Ridge Academy with Friends of Education, the Minnesota Department of Education, and other outside organizations.

Election of Eagle Ridge Academy School Board Members

Eagle Ridge Academy parents and staff elect new Board members in March. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors will have completed its downsizing process and will consist of a seven-member board. The Board follows a no-clear-majority makeup, meaning that no single group can hold the majority of seats at any one time.

In 2024, Eagle Ridge Academy continued to use an electronic polling system to increase ease of voting and accuracy of ballot counting. Candidates participated in a forum prior to the election, and an election guide with candidate information was made available to voters. New Board members are seated during the first Board meeting after July 1. Biographical information about Board members is available on the Eagle Ridge Academy website.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

BOARD MEMBER ROSTER

Name of School: EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY District #: 4122

				-		Officer	***	5	A 655 17	100		011:18			
				Term		Omcer	Attendance	Director Contact Information	Amilation	(Check one	9	Obtained Ke	equired Training		
Seat	Director Name	Current Director	Elected or Approved	Date Seated	Date Term Expires	Identify Officer Position (If any)	Workshop & Meeting Attendance 22-23	Email	Teacher	Parent **	Community Member	Finance	Governance	Employment	Other (Describe)
А	Clare Murray	х	E E A	7/1/23 7/1/20 9/24/19	6/30/25	Chair	95%	cmurray@eagleridgeacademy.org	х			10/10/23 10/4/22 10/12/21 10/2/20 10/8/19	10/25/22 9/13/22 12/9/21 11/29/21 3/9/21 11/12/19	9/26/23 6/23/22 10/8/19	1/24/23 Strategic Planning 12/9/21 Adaptive Strategies 11/29/21 Adaptive Strategies Fall 2020 COVID Safety Protocols 2/11/2020 Strategic Planning
В	Elliott Loutsch	Х	Е	7/1/22	6/30/24	Vice Chair	90%	eloutsch@eagleridgeacademy.org		Х		10/10/23 10/4/22	10/25/22 9/13/22	9/26/23	1/24/23 Strategic Planning
С	Anne Bartow	Х	E	7/1/22 7/1/20	6/30/24	Secretary	90%	abartow/Aeagleridgeacademy.org	Х			10/10/23 10/4/22 10/10/21 10/27/20	10/25/22 9/13/22 12/9/21 11/29/21 3/9/21	9/26/23 6/22/23	1/24/23 Strategic Planning 12/9/21 Adaptive Strategies 11/29/21 Adaptive Strategies Fall 2020 COVID Safety Protocols
D	David Croson	Х	E	7/1/23 '7/1/21	6/30/25	Treasurer	90%	dcroson@eagleridgeacademy.org		х		10/10/23 10/4/22 10/12/21	10/25/22 9/13/22 12/9/21 11/29/21	9/26/23 6/22/23 10/4/22	1/24/23 Strategic Planning 12/9/21 Adaptive Strategies 11/29/21 Adaptive Strategies
Е	Farhiya Roble	Х	Е	7/1/22	6/30/24		47%	froble@eagleridgeacademy.org		Х		10/4/22	10/25/22 9/13/22		1/24/23 Strategic Planning
F	Olivia Miller		A	7/2022	8/2022		100%	omiller@eagleridgeacademy.org			х				
G	Betsy Bixby		Е	7/1/23	6/30/24		74%	bbixby@eagleridgeacademy.org	Х			10/10/23		9/26/23	
Н	Kathy Oberstar	Х	А	9/26/23	6/30/24		87%	koberstan@eagleridgeacademy.org			х	10/10/23		9/26/23	
I	Lisa Johnson	Х	A	6/11/24	6/30/26		100%	ljohnson@eagleridgeacademy.org	Х						
J	Erik Edin		Α	9/29/23	6/30/24		94%	eedin@eagleridgeacademy.org	Х			10/10/23		9/26/23	

^{*}Teacher: Licensed teacher employed at the school.

**Parent: Parent of student enrolled at the school.

**Community Member: Individual who is neither a teacher employed at school, nor a parent of a student enrolled at the school.



Board Chair Clare Murray



Board Vice Chair Elliott Loutsch



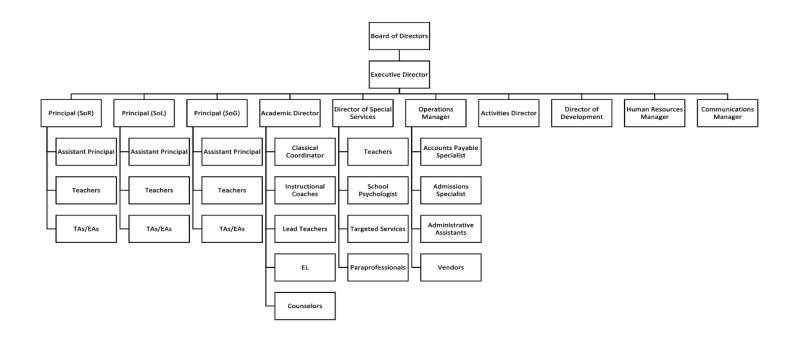
Board Secretary Anne Bartow



Board Treasurer David Croson

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

2023-2024 Eagle Ridge Academy Organization Chart





In 2024, Cohort F graduated from the three-year Classical Teacher Certificate Program, becoming Masters of Classics. The program provides masters-level training for teachers and staff seeking to deepen their knowledge of Classical education.



New staff members were welcomed to the Academy in 2023-24, including School of Grammar Assistant Principal Michael Clinger.

Staffing

Eagle Ridge Academy employed 175 staff for the 2023-2024 academic year, 114 of which are teachers and nine administrators. All teachers were licensed. Eagle Ridge Academy employed 13 operations staff and 39 student-support staff.

i			License	Date	Not
Last Name	First Name	Position	Number	Hired	Returning
Aalfs	Kelly	Teacher	479170	8/3/2020	
Aase	Amy	Teacher	507639	9/3/2020	Х
Alavena	Joan	Math Interventionist	357594	8/17/2017	
Alexander	Brooke	Teacher	1017980	8/15/2022	Х
Ali	Hind	Teacher	1027334	8/1/2023	
Ali	Mohamed	Assistant Principal		8/16/2020	
Allan	Amanda	Teacher	491904	8/16/2016	
Anastazievsky	Irene	Teacher	1005210	8/1/2022	
Anderson	Samantha	Teacher	499473	8/1/2017	Х
Babler	Kristofer	Activities Director		7/1/2018	
Bartow	Anne	Teacher	431652	8/16/2016	
Basic	Laurie	Teacher	489369	8/23/2010	
Basu	Tanuja	Paraprofessional		10/21/2019	
Berger	Michael	Teacher	469153	8/1/2023	
Bergeron	Jessica	Teacher	423628	8/18/2008	
Bixby	Betsy	Teacher	510523	8/3/2020	Х
Bloomgren	Susan	Academic Director	438926	8/23/2010	
Byrapaneni	Vengamma	Educational Asstistan	t	11/24/2023	
Castro	Franchesca	Comm. Manager		6/1/2020	
Cha	Amber	Teacher	1013957	8/1/2022	Х
Chaudhuri	Tungasri	Educational Assistant		9/13/2023	
Christen	Tiana	Teacher	1009161	8/2/2021	
Christensen	Jessica	Teacher	1017686	9/13/2021	
Clapero	Daniel	Teacher	414336	8/20/2007	
Clinger	Michael	Assistant Principal	505628	7/1/2023	
Colby	Jennifer	Paraprofessional		8/22/2023	
Combs	Melanie	Teacher	516186	9/6/2016	
Conner	Anna	Paraprofessional		8/12/2021	
Conner	Emma	Teacher	485392	8/1/2017	
Conner	Karen	Operations Manager		4/19/2007	
Crouch	Kim	Paraprofessional		8/19/2019	
Dahlstrom	Amber	Dir. of Spec. Services	407916	7/1/2018	
D'Alessandro	Danielle	Building Substitute	498733	8/23/2010	
Daugherty	Anna	Math Interventionist	459849	8/1/2023	
Dinger	Claire	Teacher	1014478	8/1/2022	
Dueffert	Joyce	Teacher	504741	8/2/2021	
Edin	Erik	Teacher	465193	1/2/2021	X
Elkins	Nathaniel	Teacher	1006310	8/17/2020	
Emerson	Angela	Educational Assistant		8/11/2022	

		License		Date	Not
Last Name	First Name	Position	Number	Hired	Returning
Faulk	Rebecca	Teacher	359356	8/1/2018	
Fenn	April	District Exec. Assistan	t	8/16/2018	
Finlayson	Maureen	Math Interventionist	461638	8/16/2016	
Fittante	Italia	Teacher	1014419	8/1/2022	
Francis	Linda	Educational Assistant		1/7/2022	
Freed	Holly	Teacher	391334	8/1/2023	
Freund	Caroline	Teacher	486913	8/1/2017	x
Friedman	Julie	Paraprofessional		8/16/2021	
Fullilove	Dawntaya	Operations Specialist		8/23/2021	
Gaskins	Jenny	Teacher	1011454	1/25/2022	Х
Gerheart	Janice	Admissions Specialist	430611	8/23/2010	
Gill	Brenda	Teacher	1029043	4/11/2023	
Goedjen	Tiffany	Teacher	423314	8/23/2010	
Good	Jonathan	Teacher	1015061	11/1/2021	
Gordon	Mandee	Teacher - Literacy	419560	8/16/2011	
Grabanski	April	Teacher	397151	8/3/2020	
Haji	Naimo	Paraprofessional		12/18/2023	Х
Haji	Ibrahim	Hall Monitor		9/26/2023	
Healy	Laura	Teacher	424552	8/3/2022	
Hecht	Anna	Assistant Teacher	1007908	9/13/2021	
Hoffman	Riley	Teacher	446638	8/22/2011	
Hopper	Lisa	Teacher	482233	8/17/2015	
Hurth	Alexandra	Teacher	511151	8/16/2018	Х
Hussein	Helma	Educational Assistant		1/3/2024	Х
Huston	Timothy	Teacher	292023	9/19/2022	
Jensen	Matthew	Educational Assistant		5/02/2011	
Jensen	Mitch	Teacher	324878	8/23/2010	
John	Reshma	Educational Assistant		1/16/2024	
Johnson	Erin	Principal	417567	8/27/2004	
Johnson	Evan	Teacher	498105	8/1/2017	
Johnson	David	Teacher	488927	8/15/2022	
Johnson	Jennifer	Admin. Assist. II	351913	8/17/2020	
Johnson	Leiha	Teacher	385831	9/15/2014	
Johnson	Lisa	Teacher	344055	8/27/2004	
Jordan	Brooke	Teacher	1025577	8/10/2023	X
Kabra	Surekha	Educational Assistant		4/8/2021	
Kaiser	Linda	Counselor	1003814	9/7/2022	
Kallevig	Sarah	Administrative Assista	int	1/29/2024	
Kaluvan	Muthuraj	Educational Assistant		3/11/2024	X
Karthik	Shenbagavalli	Educational Assistant		10/7/2022	
Kelash	Christine	Teacher	406419	8/18/2014	
King	Emma	Student Counselor	1026485	8/1/2023	
Khatri	Preeti	Teacher	1016944	9/19/2022	

			License	Date	Not
Last Name	First Name	Position	Number	Hired	Returning
Kogara	Lalani	Educational Assistant		11/1/2023	
Koparapu	Gomathi	Apprentice		8/15/2019	
Kruger	Ashley	Teacher	454486	8/16/2012	
Kruschke	Jami ,	Teacher	451892	8/16/2016	
Kuneck	Devin	SPED Coordinator	477105	7/1/2019	
Kureck	Dawn	Paraprofessional		8/9/2023	
Larson	Nicole	Teacher	485845	8/5/2019	
Lawrenz	Carla	Speech Lang. Path.	332370	1/17/2023	
Lego	Melissa	Peer Coach	286078	8/22/2011	
Lengvenis	Cathy	Teacher	324764	8/16/2016	
Leyva	Angel	Teacher	497682	8/30/2019	
Linehan	Kate	Teacher	1026097	8/7/2023	
Lutz	Derek	Teacher	491099	8/16/2016	x
Lynch	Victoria	Teacher	1013917	8/1/2022	
Lyon	Kari	HR Manager		9/14/2015	x
Madigan	Melissa	Assistant Principal	448096	10/26/2009	
Madson	Melissa	Student Success Inter	. 429868	8/16/2016	
Martin	Dilek	Accounts Payable	443938	8/22/2011	
Martin	Jennifer	Teacher	472823	8/1/2022	
Martin	Emma	Teacher	1010213	8/1/2022	
Marwah	Amruta	Paraprofessional		9/6/2022	
McGee	Kenneth	Teacher	511081	8/9/2021	
Megna	Erin	Teacher	497786	8/1/2023	
Meier	Brian	Teacher	434985	9/2/2011	
Mellgren	Janelle	Principal	385030	7/1/2017	
Menning	Katharine	Teacher	1025735	8/1/2023	X
Meyer	Kristina	Teacher	1017965	8/1/2022	
Miller	Hannah	Teacher	507293	8/16/2018	
Mills	Michelle	Teacher	426709	8/22/2011	
Mishra	Asha	Teacher	441623	8/5/2019	
Miskowiec	Lisa	Teacher	1023019	8/1/2023	
Moe	Daniel	Teacher	1025700	8/1/2023	Х
Mogili	Priyanka	Educational Assistant		8/16/2021	
Mohamed	Fowziya	Paraprofessional		8/16/2021	Х
Mohan	Bhuvaneshwa	ri Educational Assistar	nt	8/302021	
Molnar	Emily	Peer Coach	487514	8/17/2015	
Mura	Erin	Behavior Inter. Spec.	503448	8/3/2020	
Murray	Clare	Teacher	452069	8/18/2014	
Murugan	Revathy	Educational Assistant		8/11/2022	
Nelson	Shawn	Teacher	512770	9/13/2023	Х
Nygord	Kaia	Teacher	501939	8/17/2017	
O'Brien	Daniel	Teacher	313520	8/16/2012	
Oie	Margaret	Teacher	478806	8/13/2018	
Olson	Kirsten	Teacher	489432	8/3/2020	

			License	Date	Not
Last Namo	Eirst Nama	Docition	Number	Hired	
Last Name O'Neal	First Name Kalvin		Number		Returning
Osler	John	Activities Specialist Teacher	1017571	7/1/2023 8/1/2022	
Overbey	Crystal	Building Substitute	1017571	11/1/2023	
Pal Ganguly	Ishita	Paraprofessional	1031914	3/20/2023	
Park	Joanna	Teacher	407738	8/1/2023	
Pelofski	Michael	Principal	436269	7/1/2023	
Peterson	Kristine	Teacher	460661	8/16/2016	
Potini	Ratnamba	Educational Assistant	400001	1/3/2024	
Radhakrishnan	Geetha	Educational Assistant		8/16/2021	
Rathi	Kavita	Paraprofessional		8/14/2023	
Rau		Teacher	445816	8/23/2010	
Richards	Amy Emma	Teacher	1010213	8/1/2022	
Rivera		School Nurse	1010213		
	Que	Teacher	1029275	12/20/2023	
Rowley	Carly	Assistant Teacher		1/3/2023	v
Sajjad	Iram		1018863	9/29/2022	X
Sanford	Jacklyn	Paraprofessional	400207	8/12/2021	
Scheler	Elizabeth	Teacher	400207	8/21/2023	X
Schiffman	Kelly	Development Directo	466012	8/18/2014	
Schmidt	Katie	Teacher		8/16/2016	
Schmitz	Erin	Teacher	422455	8/18/2014	
Schneider	Paige	Teacher	489004	8/1/2022	
Schroeder	Breanna	Assistant Teacher	507719	8/23/2021	
Sen	Sarah	Teacher	402909	10/22/2023	
Senta	Justine	Teacher	1016376	8/1/2022	
Sheppard	Heidi	Building Substitute	462752	2/21/2017	
Shetty	Pooja	Educational Assistant	1005010	11/11/2015	
Shirley	Margaret	Teacher	1025940	2/20/2024	
Singh	Ankita	Educational Assistant	101601	8/30/2021	
Soerens	Shannoniah	Teacher	404684	8/13/2015	
Soetanto	Sarah	SPED Clerk	100100	11/2/2016	
Sommers Tillotson	Carolyn	Ed. Assist. (Library)	402139	8/27/2004	
Sundermeyer	Sam	Teacher	1018858	8/1/2023	
Suresh	Rajalakshmi	Educational Assistant		8/15/2019	
Tate	Stephanie	Teacher	419353	8/1/2023	X
Thomas	Lindsay	Teacher	442936	8/14/2017	
Timm	Anja	Teacher	1023786	8/1/2023	
Toso	Suzannah	Teacher	434232	8/16/2016	
Ulbrich	Jason	Executive Director	379277	7/01/2012	
Vargas	Bridget	Teacher	456190	4/20/2016	
Venkatesan	Priyanka	Educational Assistant		3/18/2024	
Wall	Jonathan	Teacher	1014814	8/23/2022	Х
Ward	Christopher	Teacher	494509	9/7/2016	
Wasko	Emma	Teacher	1032177	8/21/2023	
Williams	Latisha	Health Aide		8/23/2023	



			License	Date	Not
Last Name	First Name	Position	Number	Hired	Returning
Williams	Sandee	Teacher	403115	8/25/2011	
Wilson	Sophia	Teacher	1025734	8/1/2023	
Woolf	Rebecca	Teacher	343514	8/16/2016	
Wyman	Erica	Paraprofessional		8/17/2017	
Zak	Cole	Teacher	1030992	12/20.2023	

For the 2023-2024 academic school year, the student-to-teacher ratio was 13:1.

Staff are selected using a four-step process: written material review, phone interview, staff and supervisor interviews, and Executive Director final review. Staff are evaluated three times per year; they are observed at least five times per year by their peer coach.

We will continue to have apprentices in the grant-funded Grow-Your-Own Program (grant-funded).

Staff Retention

Staff retention has remained stable since the 2012-2013 academic year. Eagle Ridge Academy developed and implemented a competitive compensation package for teaching staff beginning 2014-2015. The Employee Handbook has been aligned with Board policies since 2014-2015.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Percentage of Teachers Retained	90%	94%	93%	94%	88%	91%	86%	90%	95%	86%	85%
Percentage of All Staff Retained	91%	89%	92%	97%	85%	88%	82%	90%	86%	83%	87%

The Eagle Ridge Academy Strategic Plan Metric of Success states that eighty percent of faculty who receive a recommendation for contract renewal will return to teach at Eagle Ridge Academy the following school year.

Of faculty offered a contract, 87% agreed to return for the 2024-25 school year.



In 2024, several staff members earned their Eagle Ridge Academy Pin of Perserverance. Eagle Ridge Academy gives a Pin of Perseverance to staff who have served for seven years.



Finances

Eagle Ridge Academy ended the year with many financial successes. Eagle Ridge Academy completed FY2024 with a \$286,432 surplus. Eagle Ridge Academy's School Board has set the following goals in the Strategic Plan:

- 1. Eagle Ridge Academy will operate from a sound financial position that does not require short-term borrowing. No short-term borrowing was used in the years 2013-2024.
- 2. Eagle Ridge Academy will create and maintain a fundraising strategic plan in order to reach a 20% fund balance by FY2022. The Fund Balance for FY2024 was 38%.
- 3. Eagle Ridge Academy will produce and maintain facilities to support the long-term academic programming needs of the school. Eagle Ridge Academy has completed a five-year capital maintenance plan which has been budgeted.

The audit for FY24 has been completed, resulting in a clean audit with no material findings.

Eagle Ridge Academy has an Operational Finance Team. The Operational Finance Team is an administrative group that manages the Eagle Ridge Academy School Board-approved budget and makes recommendations for future budgets. The Operational Finance Team meets monthly to review revenues and expenditures. The team is comprised of the Board Treasurer, Executive Director, and our business consultant from Creative Planning. The Board Treasurer provides a monthly report to the Eagle Ridge Academy School Board.



The 10th Annual Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut ½ Mile Dash for Kids on May 18, 2024, featured more than 600 runners and countless supporters and raised \$30,000 to benefit student enrichment at Eagle Ridge Academy.



	FY23 Audited	FY24 Audited
ADM REVENUE		
State	\$15,815,235	\$17,579,419
Federal	\$920,897	\$831,727
Other	\$1,497,375	\$637,678
Food Service	\$15,546	\$1,079,810
Community Service	\$630,173	\$574,105
Total Revenue	\$19,263,475	\$20,702,739
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries/Benefits	\$11,307,074	\$11,688,851
Building Lease	\$2,706,105	\$2,703,525
Programming	\$3,810,603	\$4,148,234
Food Service	\$531,807	\$1,301,592
Community Service	\$384,249	\$574,105
Total Expenditures	\$18,739,838	\$20,416,307
SURPLUS	\$523,637	\$286,432
FUND BALANCE	\$7,400,978	\$7,678,409

General Fund Balance History and Projections

FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Audited							
15.9%	19.5%	24.8%	29.5%	41.7%	38.4%	39.5%	38%

Overview

Eagle Ridge Academy is a K-12 Classical collegepreparatory charter school comitted to cultivating both the mind and the heart. The Academy is focused on providing a rigorous academic foundation that works in conjunction with the school's Pillars and Latin motto. The following virtues constitute the school's Pillars: Citizenship, Integrity, Perseverance, Honor, Excellence, and Respect. The school's motto *Probitas, Veritas*, Pulchritudo identifies in Latin the central tenets of the school: Goodness, Truth, and Beauty. Using these virtues and tenets as foundations, Eagle Ridge Academy is able to fulfill its mission of engaging all students in a time-tested, Classical Liberal Arts education that demands their best in academic achievement and honorable character while challenging them to attain their highest potential.

Eagle Ridge Academy is delineated into three schools representative of the three stages of the Trivium: the School of Grammar (K-4), the School of Logic (5-8), and the School of Rhetoric (9-12). Grades four and eight served a special role as the transitional years: Grade four is the transitional year between the School of Grammar and the School of Logic. Grade eight is the transitional year between the School of Logic and the School of Rhetoric.

Eagle Ridge Academy strives to incorporate aspects of all three stages of the Trivium in each of the three schools, to varying degrees as appropriate in each school, in order to help students learn the grammar-level information of a particular discipline, understand the logical reasoning behind particular disciplines, and work on the art of speaking and writing articulately with adequate reasoning and support. Upon completion of their education at Eagle Ridge Academy, students will be exemplary and knowledgeable citizens who have been instilled with a life-long passion for learning; value self-discipline, respect, perseverance,

and achievement; search for truth, beauty, and goodness; and foster an appreciation for the United States of America and her unique role in the world.

Classical Education Development

In order to support continued teacher learning and to build a deep understanding of Classical education and its delivery by means of the Trivium, Eagle Ridge Academy has created the Eagle Ridge Academy Classical Education Certificate Program (CTCP).

The Eagle Ridge Academy Classical Teacher Certificate Program (CTCP) consists of seven courses representing various disciplines of the liberal arts. Each course credit consists of eight to sixteen hours of class time and includes outside class work. All staff are welcome to join the CTCP. Participants earn credit upon satisfactory completion of each course within the three-year program. Upon graduation, Eagle Ridge Academy staff earn a salary increase; teachers and administrators earn a \$3,500 increase and hourly staff earn an additional \$0.60/hour. In the 2023-2024 school year, thirteen teachers, four administrators, one support staff, and two hourly staff members participated in the CTCP. Since its inaugural year, the CTCP has graduated sixty-seven staff members through the program.

Classical Education 101, 201, and 301 are required within two years of the anniversary date of hire. These three courses include content that addresses the philosophy and practice of Classical education. As part of a two-year onboarding process, new teachers receive Classical 101, 201, and 301 through the new-teacher mentoring program.

Virtue and wisdom are inextricably linked components of Classical education. Citizenship, integrity, perseverance, honor, excellence, and respect are both moral and intellectual virtues. Like the principles used by the Founding Fathers of the United States of America, Eagle Ridge Academy was built on certain principles and truths that are timeless and inherent.

Trivium

The School of Grammar at Eagle Ridge Academy is characterized by a well-structured learning day that sets and maintains an appropriate educational tone from beginning to end. When students come to school, they are coming to learn. Their conduct at school must demonstrate a seriousness of purpose and a sense of appropriate play that stresses the importance of learning both individual and group skills.

The School of Logic builds upon the skills introduced in the School of Grammar and requires students to use the facts and information they have learned in the School of Grammar to form logical and organized thoughts and reasoning. This stage requires students to begin answering the "why" behind concepts.

In addition to rigorous academics and high expectations in the classroom, the School of Logic also expects students to continue to reflect upon the Pillars of Eagle Ridge Academy. This will develop self-motivated and self-disciplined students who strive to seek out truth, beauty, and goodness as they begin to engage with the increasing cognitive demands that the School of Logic requires.

As the final stage in the Trivium, the School of Rhetoric builds upon what students have accomplished in the School of Grammar and the School of Logic. Students continue to learn additional

grammatical-level facts and concepts and to utilize logical reasoning; however, students build on these skills by talking and writing intelligently and articulately about concepts and in defense of arguments and positions. Teachers use open-ended questions to facilitate the depth of thought and insight expected of students as they continue to grapple with challenging material and texts in order to develop analytical reasoning skills, prepare students for college, and foster a life-long love of learning.

Students in the School of Rhetoric value academic achievement, self-discipline, and always strive to reach their full potential. As students become aware of the interconnectedness among disciplines and observe the truth, beauty, and goodness of our Classical curriculum and virtues, students will be exemplary and knowledgeable citizens who are appreciative of the United States and her unique role in the world.



The Schools of Logic and Rhetoric hold monthly Pillar Assemblies in which six students from each of the Upper School grades are recognized for displaying CIPHER. Each student is nominated for a Pillar Award by one of their teachers.

Schools of Grammar and Logic

Core Knowledge

Eagle Ridge Academy Schools of Grammar and Logic have selected the Core Knowledge Foundation's Curriculum Sequence as the framework of its curriculum. The Core Knowledge Sequence is distinguished by planned progression of specific knowledge in history, geography, science, language arts, and fine arts.

Children learn by building upon what they already know. Thus, it is important for them to begin building foundations of knowledge in the early grades when they are most receptive to attaining an organized body of knowledge. Children are, by instinct, driven to construct a contextual view of the world. Thus, it is important to provide an educational framework that assists them in developing the constructs upon which their viewpoints will be based. Academic deficiencies in these areas in the first nine grades can permanently impair the quality of later schooling.

By specifying the knowledge that all children should share, all students can achieve equal access to that knowledge. At-risk children especially suffer from low expectations, which often translate into watered-down curricula. In schools using the Core Knowledge Sequence, however, all children are exposed to a coherent core of challenging, interesting, interwoven knowledge. This knowledge not only provides a foundation for later learning but also defines a common heritage and establishes a common ground for communication and cooperation in a diverse society.

In addition to its specificity, the Core Knowledge curriculum is characterized by knowledge that is solid, sequenced, specific, and shared. Literacy in every subject requires a set of mechanical skills and a shared background. The shared, many-cultured knowledge that promotes effective classroom learning also promotes cooperation and respect among students, both in the

classroom and in society. Eagle Ridge Academy's teachers are able to rely on shared background knowledge about the students, which enables them to build sequentially on that knowledge year by year.

Latin

Eagle Ridge Academy students receive Latin instruction in grades 3-8 and into the School of Rhetoric. Latin reveals a great deal about English and enhances the students' powers of expression in their native language. About 80% of English vocabulary comes from Latin or Greek. English vocabulary tests reveal that students of Latin score higher.

Latin refines the students' understanding of English grammar and develops and deepens the students' understanding of and appreciation for literature, specifically time-tested Classical literature. Likewise, the students' appreciation for English literature grows as it is filled with Classical allusions. A student who understands those has an advantage, and Latin provides an understanding of the Classical impact on our modern culture. We see this in wedding rings, dollar signs, political structure, architecture, the names of constellations and planets, and, of course, in et cetera.

Latin trains the student in the essentials of scientific method: observation, comparison, and generalization. Students of Latin are equipped in a methodology of rigorous analysis. This ability is not subsequently limited to Latin. Latin trains minds to encounter unfamiliar material, whether in science, literature, art, or any other discipline.

Latin provides a wonderful foundation for the study of other modern languages. Direct descendants of Latin include Spanish, French, Italian, and Portuguese. Students are given a very good grasp on how inflected languages work, which include German, Russian, and Greek.

Saxon Math

Saxon Math is used in grades K-8. Saxon Math is an incremental and spiraled math program. Eagle Ridge Academy students are assessed and then placed in the appropriate math level. We do not group students in math by grade but by ability level.

School of Grammar Literacy

Eagle Ridge Academy uses an integrated, systematic, and comprehensive approach to literacy based on the Science of Reading. Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) is used in the School of Grammar to provide explicit instruction on all strands of reading that develop word recognition and language comprehension. CKLA provides both reading skills lessons and reading knowledge lessons.

Writing, listening, and oral language skills are interwoven throughout both strands of the curriculum and serve as the foundation for future success in the Socratic Method. Due to the strength of this programming, students quickly gain the skills necessary to decode increasingly complex texts while simultaneously recognizing the role of reading, writing, and listening in amassing knowledge. With a strong foundation of knowledge gained in the School of Grammar, students are well-positioned for the robust analysis and synthesis that rounds out their liberal arts education in the coming years.

Physical Education, Music, and Visual Arts

The Physical Education program in the Schools of Grammar and Logic is designed to exceed national standards for growth and development, physical fitness and nutrition, emotional health, and motor skills development.

The arts are essential components to a well-rounded Classical education. Eagle Ridge Academy uses the Core Knowledge Scope and Sequence as our curriculum.



School of Rhetoric students did hands-on experiments in science class.



Eighth-grade English classes partipcated in Mock Trial.

School of Rhetoric

Courses and Standards

The most unique component of the Eagle Ridge Academy high school program is the Humane Letters Seminars. In Humane Letters Seminars, based on the Great Books Program, students conduct in-depth studies of some of the greatest unabridged works of Western Civilization. In these courses, primary source documents are used in place of textbooks. The seminars combine a Classical framework and the use of Socratic Seminars to draw out each student's inner curiosity and passion. Following seminars, students read and analyze texts individually, then speak and write about them while citing evidence for their positions. The Humane Letters Seminars are a deep, thought-provoking course of study. Students earn an English credit and a History credit for successful completion of each year-long seminar.

Eagle Ridge Academy Graduation Standards

English (Humane Letters) History (Humane Letters) Fine Art Math Science Singletons	Credits 4 4 2 4 4 2.5
	·
Singletons Foreign Language	2.5
Elective Courses Total Credits Required	1.5 26

Class of 2024 graduates posed with their rudis swords at commencement. As per Academy tradition, the junior class presented each graduate with a rudis sword, which were traditionally given to gladiators to signify the completion of their training.



School of Rhetoric Courses

Humane Letters Sequence:

9th Grade: Ancient World 10th Grade: Medieval World 11th Grade: Renaissance World* 12th Grade: Modern World*

Science:

Biology Chemistry Physics

Astronomy I & II

Forensics

Anatomy & Physiology

AP Biology*
AP Physics*
AP Chemistry*

Art:

Art History I & II
2D Studio Art
3D Studio Art
Ceramics I & II
Drawing
Printmaking
AP 3D Studio Art*
AP 2D Studio Art*
AP Art History*

Math:

Geometry
Algebra II
Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB*
AP Calculus BC*
Functions
Algebra Linear and Quadratics
AP Statistics*

World Language:

Latin I Latin II Latin III* Honors Latin IV Honors Latin V

College in the Schools Greek

Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III

Electives and Singletons:

Logic
Rhetoric
Eastern Thought
Economics
Healthy Living
Composition
Creative Writing
Symphonic Orchestra

Choir

Concert Band

American Government AP American Government

Teacher Assistant

Psychology AP Psychology*

Strength and Conditioning

*Students who take these courses are prepared to take Advanced Placement exams.





Extracurricular Activities

Eagle Ridge Academy now hosts twelve varsity sports and has strategic co-operative agreements for four additional offerings with other suburban high schools. We maintain a strong relationship with the International School of Minnesota as they join our teams in Cross Country, and Track and Field; with Blake for Girls Swim and Girls Softball; with Hopkins for Football; and with United Christian Academy as they join us for Baseball and Track and Field.

In 2023-2024, Eagle Ridge Academy saw student participation rates across activities remain strong. In the School of Rhetoric, 219 of 327 (66%) of students participated in a club, sport, or co-curricular activity. The vast majority of students that participated were involved in multiple activities. School of Rhetoric students that participated in a club, sport, or co-curricular activity academically outperformed those that did not participate by a half letter grade.

Our co-curricular programs continue to produce some of the best teams in the state. Baseball won the Minnesota Classical Athletic Association conference championship and Cross Country and Track and Field produced State participants.

Debate was launched in 2023-2024. Middle School travel teams were launched for Volleyball, Soccer and Basketball. Eagle Ridge Academy Gryphon Youth Sports included Youth Soccer, Youth Basketball, Youth Running, and a Youth Track Meet.

Varsity activities offered include:

Boys Baseball

Boys & Girls Basketball

Boys & Girls Cross Country

Boys & Girls Soccer

Boys & Girls Track and Field

Boys & Girls Ultimate Frisbee

Debate

Girls Badminton

Girls Volleyball

Math Team

Mock Trial

Pep Band

Robotics

Speech

Eagle Ridge Academy also offers its own co-curricular activities and clubs for students. These clubs change regularly and have included:

Chess Club
Children's Choir
Dungeons & Dragons Club
ImpART Art Club
Junior Classical League (JCL)
MN High School Music Listening Contest
Strength and Conditioning
Student Senate

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Assessments for 2023-2024

In 2023-2024, Eagle Ridge Academy used assessments to compare proficiency to other schools and to determine students' achievement level, college readiness, and individual growth. The assessments included:

College Readiness

- ACT, 11th grade
- PSAT 11, 11th grade
- AP exams
- National Latin Exam
- Classic Learning Test

Grade Level Proficiency

MCA Test

Reading: 3rd-8th and 10th grades Math: 3rd-8th and 11th grades

Science: 5th, 8th, and 10th grade biology

Instructional Level and Data Driven Instruction

 Grade and Content Teacher-Constructed Interim Assessments—All grades According to the Eagle Ridge Academy mission statement, we are responsible for engaging all students in a time-tested, Classical Liberal Arts education that demands their best in academic achievement and honorable character while challenging them to attain their highest potential. We also provide our students with a rigorous curriculum that exceeds national, state, and local standards. Our students score in the top 2% on the Math Minnesota Comprehensive State Test and top 4% on the Reading Minnesota Comprehensive State Test in comparison to other Minnesota K-12 public schools. See how Eagle Ridge Academy compared with other local districts in the following graph.

While academic performance is one indicator of success, our foremost goal at Eagle Ridge Academy is to prepare students to be knowledgeable and exemplary citizens who have a lifelong passion for learning.



To encourage a lifelong passion for learning, the school library planned fun activities throughout the year to engage students in reading. One activity School of Grammar students participated in was Camp-Read-A-Lot.

2024 MCA Math Percent Proficiency by Grade

	Eagle Ridge Academy	Eden Prairie	Edina	Hopkins	State	Difference
3rd	79%	75.9%	83%	47.6%	58.6%	20.4%
4th	77.5%	72%	79.8%	50.1%	56.5%	21%
5th	58.4%	60.5%	69.4%	33.7%	44%	14.4%
6th	72.5%	54%	67.8%	27.6%	40%	32.5%
7th	65.3%	46.5%	67.6%	36.1%	40%	25.3%
8th	58.9%	45.4%	65.1%	31.3%	40.8%	18.1%
11th	64.4%	48.8%	69.9%	28.4%	34.7%	29.7%
District	68.5%	58.3%	71.8%	37.5%	45.3%	23.2%

2024 MCA Reading Percent Proficiency by Grade

	Eagle Ridge Academy	Eden Prairie	Edina	Hopkins	State	Difference
3rd	63%	64.8%	67.3%	41.8%	46.3%	16.7%
4th	61.6%	66.1%	73.1%	44.8%	47.9%	13.7%
5th	64%	76.7%	82.2%	55.2%	57.4%	6.6%
6th	73.1%	71.6%	78.9%	50.2%	54.6%	18.5%
7th	59.7%	56.9%	70.4%	49.1%	45.4%	14.3%
8th	63.7%	54.4%	68.9%	46%	44.3%	19.4%
11th	70.4%	59.7%	88.6%	49.4%	52%	18.4%
District	64.8%	64.4%	75.5%	47.9%	49.7%	15.1%

2024 MCA Science Percent Proficiency by Grade

	Eagle Ridge Academy	Eden Prairie	Edina	Hopkins	State
5th	55.9%	60.1%	63.1%	39.6%	44.8%
8th	52%	38.6%	46.7%	22.2%	29.8%
HS	73.6%	47.4%	88.4%	37.7%	43.1%
District	58.3%	48.8%	66.5%	33%	39.2%

Source: Minnesota Report Card. Data displayed respresents all students tested.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

College Readiness and Graduation Rate

Advanced Placement Proficiency and Number of Tests Given

EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total AP Students	62	75	42	69	51	76	105
Number of AP Exams	110	134	141	128	72	112	170
AP Students with a Score of 3+	44	58	56	37	34	55	72
% of Total of AP Exams with a Score of 3+	70.97	77.33	62.92	53.62	66.67	72.37	68.57

2024 AP Exams

The 2024 results were composed of scores from students who took AP 2D Art and Design, AP 3D Art and Design, AP Art History, AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Chemistry, AP Comparative Govenment and Politics, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science and Principles, AP Drawing, AP Environmental Science, AP European History, AP Human Geography, AP Japanese Language and Culture, AP Language and Composition, AP Latin, AP Literature and Composition, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, AP Music Theory, AP Physics, AP Psychology, AP Precalculus, AP Spanish Language and Culture, AP Statistics, AP U.S. Government and Politics, AP U.S. History, and AP World History: Modern.



Class of 2024 graduates passed underneath rudis swords, held by juniors, at the end of their commencement ceremony.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

2024 ACT Comparison Chart

Act Data Coming Soon

Four Year Graduation Rate

Year	Graduation Rate
2017	84.8%
2018	94.1%
2019	97.8%
2020	81.5%
2021	91.7%
2022	78.5%
2023	86.8%
2024	96.1%

Source: Minnesota Report Card

^{*}As reported by Eagle Ridge Academy

World's Best Workforce

World's Best Workforce Goals: 2023-2024

- 1. The percent of students graduating within four years will increase from 78.4% in 2022 to 82.4% in 2023. **Not Met:** The percent of students graduating within four years decreased from 78.4% in 2022 to 74.4% in 2023.
- The percent of students who are enrolled in any institution of higher education within 16 months of graduation will increase from 91% in 2021 to 92% in 2022. Not Met: The percent of students who were enrolled in any institution of higher education within 16 months of graduation decreased from 91% in 2021 to 79% in 2022.
- 3. School of Grammar: The percentage of all students in grades K-4 at Eagle Ridge Academy who are in the "Low Risk" and "College Pathway" categories on the FAST aReading or Early Reading standardized assessment will increase from 76.4% in September of 2023 to 81.34% in the spring of 2024. **Not Met:** The percentage of all students in grades K-4 at Eagle Ridge Academy who are in the "Low Risk" and "College Pathway" categories on the FAST aReading or Early Reading standardized assessment increased from 76.4% in September of 2023 to 81.1% in the spring of 2024.
- 4. School of Logic: The percentage of all students in grades 5-8 at Eagle Ridge Academy who are in the "Low Risk" and "College Pathway" categories on the FAST aReading standardized assessment will increase from 73.25% in September of 2023 to 78.10% in the spring of 2024. Not Met: The percentage of all students in grades 5-8 at Eagle Ridge Academy who are in the "Low Risk" and "College Pathway" categories on the FAST aReading standardized assessment increased from 73.25% in September of 2023 to 77.37% in the spring of 2024.
- 5. The percentage of kindergartners in Eagle Ridge Academy's Lower School that achieve low risk on the FastBridge early reading test will increase from 69% in fall 2023 to 74% in fall 2024. **Not Met:** The percentage of kindergartners in Eagle Ridge Academy's Lower School that achieved low risk on the FastBridge early reading test decreased from 69% in fall 2023 to 62% in fall 2024.



The ERA Literacy Team held a Family Literacy Night in the spring. Families played literacy-based games, read together, and were provided with tools to support children at home and help them become more successful readers.

World's Best Workforce

Equitable Access to Excellent Teachers

Eagle Ridge Academy uses measures when placing teachers with students and determining student class lists. Eagle Ridge Academy believes that the experience of teachers is an important factor in determining teacher excellence; however, it is only one of four factors that we use. Eagle Ridge Academy administration places teachers by using data in the following four areas:

- 1. Training in the specific content area or grade level which goes beyond licensure.
- 2. Successful past experience in the grade level or content area.
- 3. Past evaluation results from Eagle Ridge Academy.
- 4. Coaching support for teachers in order to help them be successful in the classroom.

Using these four factors, we place teachers with the students who most align to their strengths. Eagle Ridge Academy also works hard to have heterogeneous class lists. This prevents teachers from having an overload. Within the first six weeks of a semester, the Student Support Team evaluates student performance both academically and behaviorally. Some classroom assignments or in-class supports will be modified.

Communication of Charter School Offerings to Targeted Groups

Eagle Ridge Academy offers a variety of support systems for at-risk groups. These offerings include after-school care, zero-hour tutoring, targeted services offered two days per week, summer school, and scholarship assistance for transportation, uniforms, meals, field trips, and extra-curricular activities.

There are four ways in which we communicate and promote the use of these programs and opportunities:

- 1. A brochure that clearly communicates all the programs.
- 2. Individual letters and communications at the time of sign-up.
- 3. Archived information on our website.
- 4. Face-to-face meetings at Back-to-School Nights and Open House.



School of Logic teachers created their own theme days to increase spirit during exams, including "Tie Day."

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Authorizer

Eagle Ridge Academy has been authorized by Friends of Education since 2004. Friends of Education has the responsibility to oversee Eagle Ridge Academy's contractual compliance with Friends of Education and applicable laws including the Academy's fiscal, operational, and student performance. Friends of Education conducts annual site visits and monitors student testing. The Authorizer may be contacted at: Friends of Education, 11100 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 800, Minnetonka, MN. Contact information for Eagle Ridge Academy's Liaison is Beth Topoluk, Executive Director of Friends of Education, 952-745-2717.

Eagle Ridge Academy's contract with Friends of Education was renewed effective July 1, 2021 for a five-year period. The contract expires on June 30, 2026.

Compliance with Applicable Laws and MDE Reporting

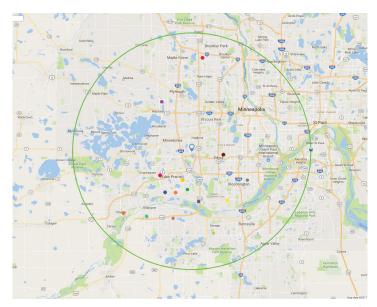
Eagle Ridge Academy complies with all applicable laws and seeks counsel to ensure compliance. In 2018-2019, the Eagle Ridge Academy School Board continued to draft and approve mandatory policies. The Policy Working Group publishes an annual policy approval and review cycle.

Eagle Ridge Academy uses a report tracker that ensures the timely submission of reports such as QComp, STARS, MARSS, DIRS, Annual Report, Audit, and other MDE reports.

Eagle Ridge Academy conducted the following emergency drills: seven fire drills, four lockdown drills, and one severe weather drill.

Transportation

In 2023-2024, Eagle Ridge Academy provided daily transportation in the form of contracted busing services to approximately 935 students (61%). Eagle Ridge Academy provided busing in various parts of the southwest metro area on 16 routes. The cities served by Academy-provided transportation included Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Crystal, Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, Maple Grove, Minnetonka, New Hope, Prior Lake, Richfield, Robbinsdale, Savage, Shakopee, St. Louis Park, and Wayzata. Students who do not reside within the Hopkins Public School District paid a transportation fee for this service.



The map above shows Eagle Ridge Academy's transportation radius as well as the furthest stop for each route.

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

In August 2024, Eagle Ridge Academy had a waitlist of 724 students in grades K-12. We refresh our waitlist every January to stay current.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Student Wait List	115	102	113	109	96	104	33	35	10	0	0	7	0	724

Strategic Growth

In the most recent Board of Directors Strategic Plan, four requirements were set forth as necessary prerequisites to any type of expansion or physical growth: 80% of the Strategic Plan goals and objectives need to be met, 1200 students need to be on the K-12 waitlist, there must be a 35% fund balance, and there must be a Board-approved Growth Plan developed by administration. The purpose of these goals is to ensure there is a strong foundation and healthy Academy prior to expansion or replication. The administration is currently working through the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.

Facilities

Over the course of the 2023-24 school year, improvements were made to the Eagle Ridge Academy facility. Tile flooring in the kitchen was replaced with welded vinyl flooring to provide ease of fatigue and a sealed surface for cleanliness. In addition, wall surfaces and ceiling tiles were upgraded. Kitchen equipment was added to include a flattop grill and tilt skillet to support the growing food service program and increase fresh, chefdriven, cooked-on-site menu items.

Drain tile was added in the playground area to address drainage and add to the usable space for the kindergarten through fourth grade recess area. Fencing was added to the back of the recess area to increase safety and security of students.



Kindergarteners played on the playground equipment during recess time.

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES AND FUTURE PLANS

Data Driven Instruction

The two most significant factors that positively impact student achievement are the amount of instructional time students receive and the quality of that instruction. Eagle Ridge Academy and Friends of Education Schools have established an academic calendar that exceeds the state requirements for instructional hours. This has assisted students in achieving great academic results.

Within the 2023-2024 school year, Eagle Ridge
Academy addressed the quality of instruction
students receive by prioritizing methods for teachers
to create and analyze effective assessments and
utilizing those results to best meet students' needs.
This goal aligns with the Board of Directors' strategic
plan to "Solidify teachers' understanding of content
taught and how to plan, deliver, and assess that
content for all teachers throughout the Trivium."
To create the essential time needed to achieve
this strategic plan goal and improve the quality of
instruction, the Board of Directors adjusted the
school calendar to create job-embedded time for
teachers to do this important work.

With the adjustment, which accounted for a reduction in ten instructional hours, Eagle Ridge Academy still exceeded state requirements, at all grade levels, by at least 200 hours.

During the additional time provided, teachers created or refined interim assessments to align to grade-level standards and college-readiness. Assessments were administered every six to eight weeks as a measure of student learning. Teachers analyzed the student learning data with a trained data lead and created a reteaching plan to adjust future instruction in order to respond to student learning.

Grade	State Requirement	Eagle Ridge Academy
K-5	935	1,211
6	935	1,237
7-12	1,020	1,237



School of Grammar first graders used Oreo cookies to learn about the phases of the moon.

DISSEMINATION AND MARKETING INFORMATION

Minn. Stat. 124E.17 requires charter schools to "disseminate information about how to use the offerings of a charter school. Targeted groups include low-income families and communities, students of color, and students who are at risk of academic failure."

Eagle Ridge Academy annually plans marketing strategies that work to retain and attract students from diverse backgrounds and socioeconomic statuses. The shift in demographics over the past five years is evidence that our marketing strategies have worked. Eagle Ridge Academy's enrollment has grown from nearly 800 students in 2011 to 1,534 students in 2023 while going from 81% white to 29.9% white in the same time period.

Below are some strategies used at Eagle Ridge Academy to achieve this goal:

- 1. Eagle Ridge Academy Website and Social Media
 - Images of staff and students that include people from diverse backgrounds
 - ii. Website has a translate button for families whose primary language is not English
- 2. Interpreter and Language Services
 - Eagle Ridge Academy provides interpreter services when conducting face-to-face meetings
 - ii. Services are provided to assist families completing enrollment paperwork
 - Services are provided to families once they are enrolled at ERA for conferences, teacher phone calls, and IEP meetings
 - iv. Letters are translated for families as needed

3. Relationships

- Teachers are provided eight hours of release time to have specialized conferences for our neediest students
- ii. All staff receive relationship-building professional development via Top 20 Training
- iii. Reading and Math Literacy Specialist provides free after-school instruction

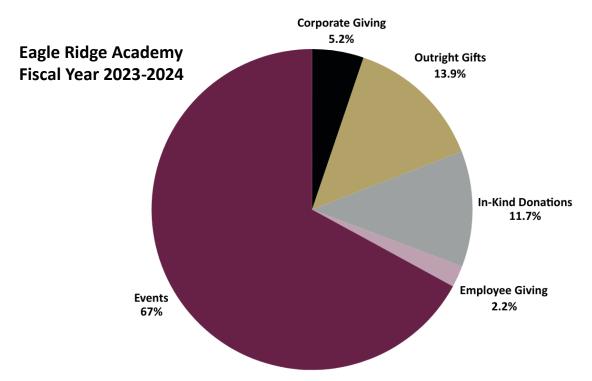
4. Providing Access

- Students receiving socioeconomic benefits receive free transportation when residing outside of the district
- Students receiving socioeconomic benefits receive free or discounted activity fees
- iii. Open computer labs are provided before and after school for families and students
- iv. Students receiving socioeconomic benefits receive reduced or free afterschool child care
- v. Students receiving socioeconomic benefits receive reduced or free uniforms
- vi. Students receiving socioeconomic benefits receive reduced or free field trips

5. Increased Instructional Time

- i. ERA offers free extended day instructional time to at-risk students
- ii. ERA offers free summer school to K-12 students that are at risk

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT



	Revenues	Expenses	Net
Corporate Giving	\$9,558	-	\$9,558
Events	\$123,229	\$40,946	\$82,283
Employee Giving	\$4,010		\$4,010
In-Kind Donations*	\$21,447		\$21,447
Outright Gifts	\$25,454		\$25,454
*In-Kind Donations are non-cash.	\$162,342		\$132,843

Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy (FERA), the Academy's non-profit foundation, has a sole purpose to financially support Eagle Ridge Academy and sustain it for future generations. With the immense growth of the Academy, philanthropy is of the utmost importance. FERA plays an important role in building capacity and cultivating long-lasting relationships.

FERA is a certified 501(c)(3) entity under the Internal Revenue Code with accepted donations going to its sole beneficiary Eagle Ridge Academy. All donations from individuals, corporations, grantors, and foundations are accepted and processed through

FERA. Funds are invested in FERA's endowment and disbursed directly to the Academy for its highest priority needs. FERA is qualified to receive tax-deductible donations, bequests, gifts of stocks and real estate, transfers, and in-kind gifts. It is governed by a Board of Directors who focus on short- and long-term strategy and planning for the future of Eagle Ridge Academy.

For more information on how you may support Eagle Ridge Academy, please visit www.eagleridgeacademy.org or call 952-746-7760, ext. 1107.

GRYPHON GIVING SOCIETY: THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

In the spirit of gratitude, we acknowledge the generosity of our donors. We are thankful for our partners in philanthropy and the belief they have in the mission of Eagle Ridge Academy. Their support is critical in helping us lift and sustain Eagle Ridge Academy for future generations of scholars.

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Thank you to all of the supporters who registered for an event, purchased a silent auction item, or donated an in-kind item.

Eagle Ridge Academy faculty and staff give generously not only of their time and talents but also of their financial resources. During the 2023-24 fiscal year, current and former members of the faculty and staff committed more than \$9,000 in gifts and event support to Eagle Ridge Academy. We are grateful for their loyal and constant support.

We apologize for any omission or error in spelling. If you believe there is an error, please contact Eagle Ridge Academy at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107.



Founding teacher Carolyn Sommers Tillotson and husband David Tillotson pose with llamas at the 2023 Gala for the Gryphons. One of the event's live auction items was a farm visit and birthday party package at Carlson's Llovable Llamas in Waconia.