



Dear parents,

I've just collapsed in my office after an exhilarating day of Academic Performances; Luyi and I were literally on the go from 9:00AM-3:30PM to be certain to catch equal time with each classroom across all grade levels from 1st-8th! Although I spend every day surrounded by our dedicated teachers and bright kids and regularly catch snippets of learning, the opportunity to enjoy a more comprehensive, in-depth performance that showcases the children's spoken and written language, creativity, and critical thinking is a treat! While I don't know Chinese, similar to many of you perhaps, I was thoroughly delighted by each skit, each song, and each display board or interactive game thanks to our children; their encouragement and patience are commendable! The science fair allowed all of our budding 5th-8th grade scientists to explore a topic of particular interest to them, and there were many. My only regret was that I wasn't able to discuss everyone's finished project with them. The English department also planned such a fascinating array of topics related to their curriculum. The 2nd grade Japanese culture boxes with tourist details, the 3rd grade biographies of famous folk featured on the Museum Walk, the 4th grade research done on American presidents, and the 5th grade Native American habitats with detailed descriptions were all so well done. I know that I did not have the opportunity to prepare a bilingual newscast, write a radio drama, or create a screen play when I was in school! Today was more evidence that our students are engaged, active learners. I hope you enjoyed it as much as me!

Enjoy a well-deserved weekend!

Sue

UPCOMING DATES

May 20-24	NWEA, YCT External Exams (grades KG-8)
May 24	Last Day of Enrichment Classes
May 27	Memorial Day - No School
May 30- June 5	End of Year Final Exams (K-8)
May 31 2:00PM-2:45PM	Kindergarten Academic Performances (Kinder Campus)
June 3 5:30PM-6:00PM 6:00PM-7:30PM	School Board Meeting (abbreviated) Board Annual Meeting/Candidate Speeches
June 6 1:00PM-3:30PM	Honors Convocation & Grade 8 Graduation Reception
June 7	Last Day of School Field Day

Board Update

We started a good discussion last night with about forty parents who attended the YACA Annual Meeting. Topics included the work being done on facilities, finance, teacher retention, and high school partnerships. Time ran short, so we would like to **continue the conversation at the School Board Annual Meeting on Monday, June 3 at 6 PM**. Please mark your calendars to come hear the board candidates speak, to hear the official State of the School addressing these four topics and more, and to participate in a Q&A.

The annual parent survey will be sent out around May 22. Please look for an email with a survey monkey link. We value your input - not only once a year, but all year long. Please use this survey as a formal way to let us know what's working and what can be improved. The results are used to set Board and Administration goals for 2013-14.

Quick facilities update: we have had a number of delays, but are still on schedule to break ground in June, to have the heavy construction completed before school starts in late August, and to have the first floor certified for occupancy by November. Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is currently relocating utility services that are housed in the Northeast Park Building and clearing out the space in preparation for officially vacating on June 1. We received approval from the Minneapolis City Council last Friday to move forward with our conduit bond financing. Piper Jaffray plans to begin marketing the Yinghua bonds next week, to set the price on June 4, and close around June 10. We will not have a confirmed construction schedule until we close, so we will be provide updates as we have them!

Thanks,
Jen Shadowens
Board Chair



China Sister School Conference Call

The sister school video conference call originally scheduled for May 23rd has been rescheduled for **May 30th from 5:30-6:30**.

ENRICHMENT REMINDER

Enrichment classes, music classes, and aftercare end Friday, May 24th. If you are enrolled in any afterschool activity, please fill out the attached dismissal form and return to the front office ASAP.

NEW SPIRIT WEAR

YACA has teamed up with local Northeast printer, Tee Squared, to offer a new spirit wear t-shirt, designed exclusively for our school by parent, Mel Chaput.

This shirt is approved attire for all grades on SPIRIT WEAR FRIDAYS for the 2013 - 2014 school year including this year's FIELD DAY on June 7.

TO ORDER:

Forms have been sent home in backpacks, are available [here](#) on the website, and are in the offices of both the main and kinder locations.

Sample sizes are on display at the main campus. 50% of all sales go to Yinghua.

Spring Happenings

Looking for an excuse to get outside next week?

Come listen to the Silver Lake Symphonic Winds perform at Silverwood Park for FREE. The music will be representing countries from around the world. Yinghua's own, Sarah Henning, will be playing with this casual group sure to be an entertaining, kid friendly event.

What: Silver Lake Symphonic Winds

When: Wednesday May 22 at 6:30

Where: Silverwood Park Amphitheater, 2500 County Road E
St. Anthony MN

Field Day Volunteers Needed

As you have heard - the Yinghua Olympics are upon us! We are recruiting the best and brightest volunteers for this massive event. Please consider joining us as a Country Coach or as an Olympic Games Event Official so we can Let The Games Begin! Field Day is Friday, June 7th, the last day of school, we will need volunteers from 10:30 until end of day. To find out how you can participate in this fun event, click here to see the [Field Day Volunteer Sign-Up](#).

Cirque Zíva

June 1 & 2, 2013 | Music | All Ages
Ordway Music Theater



Champion acrobats, contortionists and jugglers combine breathtaking skill and spell-binding beauty to transform 2,000 years of Chinese tradition into an awe-inspiring display of talent and grace. Hailing from Hangzhou, Hebei Province, in the People's Republic of China, Cirque Zíva will blend traditional Chinese folk dance with incredible acrobatic feats that will leave you spellbound in your seat!

Sat. June 1 – 11AM & 2PM

Sun., June 2 – 11:15AM & 2PM

Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra

On Saturday morning, May 25, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra <http://www.thespc.org/> will present FREE kid-sized concerts with a full-sized chamber orchestra! Their popular 50-minute Family Concerts weave together fun, learning and interesting characters with classical music repertoire plucked from the SPCO's season. This program features popular music from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary eras, along with a familiar melody that sounds very different as it travels through time! Geared for ages 6-12, these concerts are sure to educate and entertain!

SPCO Family Concert: The Time Traveler<<http://content.thespc.org/events/family-concert-time-traveler/>>

Tickets are FREE, thanks to generous support from Target so get them today and bring your friends!