



Directors' Report
April 7, 2016

ADMINISTRATION

Prop 39 for 2016-17:

OCS has signed an alternative Prop 39 agreement for the 2016-17 school year. OCS will continue to occupy the rooms it currently occupies on the WESM campus. OCS and WESM administrations are exploring the possibility of using a WESM music room for some of our music classes, if the WESM music class schedule allows.

Mar Vista Campus Update:

OCS and MCF reached a tentative agreement on an updated lease and the Board of Trustees will review and possibly approve at the April 7th Board meeting.

Long Term Site Update:

Funding- The LAUSD Bond Oversight Committee approved OCS' application for 50% funding of our total project costs. The final step in the process is for the LAUSD Board to vote on the application at the April 12th Board meeting.

Bridge Financing- OCS is exploring the possibility of using bond financing to bridge the gap between when we need to use our funds and when they will be released. We also continue to explore other bridge financing options with banks, non-profit lenders, and charter organizations.

Summer Camp:

OCS is planning to offer a summer camp for all ages during the month of July at the MV campus.

Enrollment Update:

2015-16 enrollment update as of April 4, 2016 is 469.

Administration and faculty are developing new materials and protocols to welcome new families into the school with the goal of helping new families integrate more easily and quickly into our community, and to empower them with greater knowledge of our program. Returning parents will also play a key role in this process as they buddy up with new families to help guide them through their first year in our community.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:

ARTS INTEGRATION:

Class Plays- Many classes have completed their class performances for the year, which have included *Cyrano de Bergerac* in 7th grade, *The Story of Troy* in 5th, and *Momotaro-The Peach Boy* in 4th, among others. In addition to immersing students in rich language, class plays offer an opportunity to collaborate with each other in pursuit of a common goal, practice public speaking, and experiment “being” a different character for a time. This integral part of Waldorf Education involves every student in every class, grades 1st-8th, and highlights the strong personal connection both amongst the students and between the teacher and students as the teacher carefully chooses the play and assigns the parts based on the particular students in their class and their needs.

Hands-On Projects- Students are demonstrating their understanding of concepts and engaging their creative talents by developing hands-on projects, from 8th grade models of violins and various flying machines for 8th grade project presentations, to 6th grade Medieval shields for participation in the Medieval Games and as students delve into Medieval history in class, to beautiful silk banners and odes created by our 5th grade students in preparation for their visit with the Greek gods during the Pentathlon event. These projects engage students intellectually, emotionally, and physically and are key components to our program.

PREPARATION FOR STATE STANDARDIZED TESTING:

Faculty and staff are preparing to administer the CAASP and CST during the month of May. In preparation, students are practicing with online practice tests to become familiar with the technology needed to take the exams successfully, as well as to determine how confident they are with the content. Teachers use these practice tests to guide instruction, going back to review concepts taught earlier that are not yet mastered and planning appropriately for concepts that are included in the testing by have not yet been covered in class.

WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) Initial Process:

The WASC team met with the administration in the morning, then visited classrooms at the MV and WC campuses, and finally joined the faculty meeting on March 23th. The feedback from the visit was very positive. The next step is for the visiting committee to provide a report and recommendation to the ACS WASC Commission. The Commission will make a final determination whether to grant Initial Accreditation, Candidacy for Accreditation, or to withhold ACS WASC affiliation. The school will be notified in writing of the Commission’s action and will receive a copy of the visiting committee report.



Coming School Events:

- WC Open House- April 14th
- Beach Clean-A-Thon- April 20th
- ACG meeting – April 21st
- Holiday – April 29th
- Spring Faire – May 6th