

Directors' Report December 5, 2019

## **ADMINISTRATION**

## **Annual Performance Based Oversight Visit**

The dates for our annual oversight visit by the Charter Schools Division at LAUSD have been confirmed for Thursday, December 5th (DR) and Friday, December 13th (WC). The visit includes 4 areas: Governance; Student Achievement and Educational Performance: Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations; and Fiscal Operations. Last year, OCS received the following scores on a 4-point rubric: Governance - 4; Student Achievement and Educational Performance - 3; Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations - 4; and Fiscal Operations - 4. The 3 earned for Student Achievement and Educational Performance is directly related to our students' scores on the SBAC state mandated standardized test. The two factors contributing to this score not being a 4 are the percentage of students in certain subgroups was not high enough and the English Language Learner reclassification rate was not high enough for OCS to earn a 4. These two areas are priorities for this year. Our English Language Development program and our Intervention program are focusing efforts on supporting in these groups to achieve at a higher rate this year.

Our EL reclassification rate made a significant jump over the last year to now over 40%, higher than our resident and similar schools.

# **Public Waldorf Education Core Principles**

As part of ongoing sharing with the Board about our school's philosophy, the Directors will highlight one of the seven core principles of Public Waldorf Education in each Directors' Report. The third core principle is below.

3. Social Change Through Education: Public Waldorf education exists to serve both the individual and society.



- Public Waldorf education seeks to offer the most supportive conditions possible for the development of each student's unique capacities and for engendering the following qualities to work towards positive social change:
- A harmonious relationship between thinking, feeling, and willing; of Self-awareness and social competence;
- Developmentally appropriate, academically informed, independent thinking;
- The initiative and confidence necessary to transform intentions into realities; and
- An interest in the world, with active respect and a feeling of responsibility

for oneself, one's community, and the environment.

Such individuals will be able to participate meaningfully in society.

## **Diversity Benchmark update**

Ocean Charter School's progress in increasing diversity has been mixed this school year, although the shifts in either direction are only minor. In the 2019-20 school year, we have grown our percentage of Hispanic or Latino students from 23% to 25%. However, our overall PHBAO percentage decreased by 1% and our socioeconomically disadvantaged number decreased by 12%. That said, this year's percentage of socioeconomically disadvantaged students is the second highest percent we have had in the last 6 years so the trend shows growth overall. Our percentage of students of two or more races remains high at 15%, while our percentage of African American students fell by 2%. Our percentage of Asian students remained constant.

# **Del Rey Campus Update**

Winter weather is here and students at the DR campus enjoyed the experience of making "snowballs" in November when it unexpectedly hailed. The pure joy on the faces of the TK-3rd grade children as they played with the "snow" was priceless! The hailstorm organically evoked a natural scientific curiosity within the children as they began to ask how the hail balls were formed. This is an example of Steiner's view that the



"children are the curriculum"; curiosity about the world is naturally within them and it is the educators task to bring it forth.

## **Westchester Campus Update**

Bi-monthly meeting occur with all the school leadership of the 5 schools colocated at WESM. The site was awarded a grant by LAUSD to support colocated facilities in ways that support all students at the site. While OCS will be moving into our new campus next year and therefore no longer be co-located at WESM, we are participating in and supporting the work of the schools' leadership teams to allocate the funds to maximum benefit.

On Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, OCS will host a celebrity concert in the WC auditorium benefitting Armory for Harmony and featuring celebrity musicians from acall2peace.org. Armory for Harmony repurposes firearms into musical instruments for high school students. Acall2peace is a collective of internationally known musicians who want to contribute to positive causes through their music. OCS is honored to partner with Eduardo Del Signore, Sonia Kazarova and acall2peace.

### Enrollment as of 12/3/19

K=55

TK=26

1st=56

2nd=76

3rd=56

4th=54

5th=47

6th=55

7th=53

8th=50

Total=528

# **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:**

#### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**



During our shortened day schedule the week prior to Thanksgiving, class teachers met with all the parents in their classes to discuss how the students are progressing academically, socially, emotionally, and artistically. Parent/Teacher conference documented the students' growth and are filed in students' CUM folders and mailed home to parents. This meeting time and documentation is critical to keeping parents informed of their child's progress, and to fostering a collaborative relationship between parents and teachers.

The conference forms indicate if a student is above, at, nearly at, or below grade level standards in reading, writing, math, and citizenship. These evaluations are made based on student work and assessments. Teachers also take into account the picture of the whole child and look for growth in all areas, including socially, emotionally, and artistically.