



Directors' Report
February 2, 2017

ADMINISTRATION

Del Rey Campus Update:

Kindergarten Faculty Child Development ACG presentation

Our team of esteemed Kindergarten teachers shared an incredible presentation on Child Development with parents last Friday morning. In addition to discussing relevant theories and recommended reading, they handed out beeswax squares for the parents to smell, hold, warm and manipulate. They shared helpful tips such as how to keep your child's inner warmth intact on these cold days and explained some of the many things that are being taught everyday in the Kindergarten classrooms.

We thank the Kindergarten team for taking the time to put together such a lovely presentation and present it to the community.

Mark your calendars now for the next presentation, **"The Nine Year Change" Friday, February 24th at 8:30am in the DR library.**

Heater repair

The heater in the main building was in need of repair. It was necessary to run new electrical conduits and replace the high limit switch on the rooftop furnace. The total cost of the repairs was \$3,895. The students, faculty, and staff will now stay warm this winter.

Westchester Campus Update:

Winter Concert

Congratulations to all our 4th-8th students for an amazing concert. The students showcased the progress they've made in all their music and dance classes, made possible because of their dedication and that of their teachers. Thanks to everyone who made it such a success! It is events such as our Winter Concert that highlight OCS' commitment to providing this type of meaningful engagement in the arts to all of our students.

ACG Meeting Recap: OCS' Science Curriculum

A panel of esteemed OCS teachers, including Mrs. Geanakos, Ms. Aly, Ms. McGurk, and Ms. Olbris presented the phenomenological approach to the K-8 Science curriculum at our last evening ACG meeting. We extend gratitude and thanks to our teachers for such a stellar presentation!



OCS parents experienced an “ahaa” moment as they observed Ms. McGurk make sound visible with a Physics lesson in acoustics. Various patterns unfolded with grains of salt on a Chladni plate as Ms. McGurk took magic strokes with a violin bow, demonstrating how sound frequency creates form.

State of the School Meeting:

The entire OCS parent community is invited to attend the State of the School Meeting Tuesday, January 31st from 6:00-8:00pm at the Panama Campus. We are looking forward to sharing an update on the design for our future TK-8th grade campus. We will also discuss our budget and the top priorities for this year and beyond.

2017-2018 School Year Calendar:

The OCS 2017-2018 calendar will be determined in collaboration with Ocean Charter School and the Ocean Charter School Teachers Association. Consideration will be given to the LAUSD Board decision to start district schools the week of August 14, 2017.

New OCS donor development film:

The rough cut of the new film was shared with the Trustees for review this month. Thank you for sending your well-received comments and suggestions! The film will be updated based on the feedback we received. Again, we thank our fabulous team of dedicated parents, Katja Lau (director/producer), Ligia Lotus (editor), and Stoeps Langensteiner for the creation of this film.

LAUSD Annual Oversight Visit:

The team from LAUSD will conduct the annual oversight on February 28th and March 1st. The district team will evaluate OCS in the following areas: Governance, Student Achievement and Educational Performance, Organizational Management, Programs and Operations, and Fiscal Operations.



Enrollment Update:

Snapshot by grade as of 1/31/17

TK=41
K=67
1st=56
2nd=51
3rd=55 (1 offer pending)
4th=56
5th=54 (2 offers pending)
6th=51
7th=40
8th=50
Total=521

Parent Tours and Information Meetings:

We had three more successful and well-attended Parent Tours and Information meetings on January 11th, 18th, and 25th. Every seat was filled and in some cases there was standing room only with a total of 60-80 interested parents! Given the demand, we have scheduled additional tours and information meetings in the upcoming months.

As of today, 1/31/17, we have received **540** applications for the 2017-2018-enrollment lottery. (This is compared to 507 applications received by this same date last year.)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:

Curriculum:

Joint Dr. Martin Luther King Assembly:

OCS and WESM will again host a joint assembly in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on February 16th. The assembly will be at 8:45am in the auditorium and parents are invited. The assembly will feature performances by students from both schools as well as a performance by Mr. Gerald Rivers, OCS percussion teacher and the voice of Dr. King.

English Language Arts:

Younger grades (1st- 4th) are working with leveled reading materials to better support students' growth in the areas of reading fluency and comprehension. This approach compliments, not supplants, the oral story telling that is central to main lesson and key to building comprehension, vocabulary, critical thinking, and ethical thinking.



Older grades (4th-8th) are developing grade level writing prompts and rubrics to ensure students are progressing in their mastery of grade level writing. Teachers will use these writing samples to generate more consistent evaluation of student writing, with the final outcome of clearer and more consistent expectations for grade level student writing across the grades.

Internal Benchmark Assessments:

First grade students completed their first internal benchmark assessments using EasyCBM for English Language Arts and Math this month as one method of tracking student progress. Second-eighth grade students completed a second set of internal benchmark assessments this month. The internal assessment results combined with teacher made assessments are used to determine which students need academic intervention support. Our intervention teachers target specific skills such as decoding/phonics, reading fluency, reading comprehension, math fluency, and math concepts based on students' needs.

Coming School Events:

- January 31st, Tuesday, **STATE OF THE SCHOOL MEETING**, 6:00-8:00pm, Panama Campus
- February 2nd, Thursday, **Diversity Meeting**, 8:30am, Del Rey Campus
- February 17th, Friday, **Grandparent's Day**
- February 20th and 21st, Monday and Tuesday, Presidents' Day Holiday, **NO SCHOOL**
- February 23rd, Thursday, **WC Open House**
- February 24th, Friday, **ACG Meeting**, DR, 8:30-9:30am
- April 1st, Saturday – **Silent Auction** – mark your calendars now!