

February 5, 2015

ADMINISTRATION

Prop 39/Co-location Update:

- OCS has received the district's preliminary Prop 39 offer for next year. We have been offered one additional classroom at the WC campus to accommodate our growing in-district student enrollment. Administration will work with the WESM administration and Prop 39 office on the details of the agreement, including the use of shared spaces. Administration will respond to the district's offer by March 1st, per the deadline, and should receive the district's final offer on or before May 1st.

Mar Vista Campus Update:

- The Mar Vista campus office flood damage was repaired and the wall in the office and restroom has been reconstructed.

Long Term Site Update:

- OCS is submitting our application for an LAUSD augmentation grant to supplement our 1D award this month.
- Members of the Site Task Force met with representatives of First Citizens Bank to discuss how to address the gap in the timing of our funds from the state and possibly the district. The bank officials are interested in supporting OCS reach its facility goal by exploring funding options to address this gap.
- Administration continues to work with local LAUSD campuses to explore options for permanent co-location.
- Funding for site acquisition and development continues to be a need. Efforts are being focused on developing potential donor and partnership relations with organizations, companies, and philanthropic individuals to support our long-term site and programmatic goals.
- The parent site committee continues to meet regularly. As OCS no longer has an exclusive agreement with any one broker, any and all brokers are invited to present any viable properties. To date, no realistic private sites have yet been presented.

Enrollment Update:

2014-15 Enrollment as of February 2, 2015 is 469.

Middle School Preview Night:

A teacher, student and administrator presentation about our middle school program was offered for current OCS 4th and 5th grade families to help them better understand our middle school program. Parents in these classes were also encouraged to attend tours during the school day to see the program and children in action. Our goal is to retain as many families as possible so that our students experience the full breath and depth of our public school Waldorf

curriculum, including the long-lasting bonds formed amongst students over the full 8 year arc.

Outreach Video Update:

Last week, our volunteer videographer recorded student generated music and volunteer parent editors continue to work diligently to create the first version of the video.

2015-2016 Calendar:

Faculty and administration are working together on a proposed calendar for the upcoming school year through the process of labor negotiations.

Grandparents' Club:

OCS has officially launched our Grandparents' Club. The intentions of this club are to share information and updates about OCS happenings in and out of the classrooms with our grandparent community, and to cultivate deeper relationships with this valued segment of our community. Students and teachers will host and honor grandparents on our annual Grandparents' Day Celebration on Feb. 12th this year. Based on feedback from last year's event, the schedule of the day has been modified to allow grandparents time at both the MV and WC campuses.

Strategic Plan:

Administration recommends hiring an Interim Development Consultant to work in collaboration with the Directors and Board with input from the faculty, staff, and parents in support of a strategic plan that furthers OCS' overall growth and development in the following areas:

1. Create a Single Site
2. Increase Diversity
3. Increase Applicant Pool
4. Develop Full Specialty Programs
5. Deepen Practice of Waldorf Education and Academic Rigor

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

CAASSP Testing 2015:

OCS students grades 3-8 will participate in the CAASSPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) testing this spring. The tests include a computer adaptive test and a performance task for all grades 3-8, and an additional paper/pencil test in science on the CST for grades 5th and 8th only.

February is designated as the time for faculty training on the tests and practice tests, as well as the time to prepare our devices for testing.

March and April are for student test preparation in the form of practice tests both online and paper/pencil. Students and teachers alike will be getting familiar with

this year's testing format and questions, as well as the accommodations possible with online testing.

In order to meet the need for devices of OCS students for testing this year, administration is recommending a Chrome Book purchase. The administration has completed a thorough inventory of testing devices on hand. Currently, we do not have enough devices for each grade 3rd -8th to begin the practice assessments or to take the required state standardized tests in May. While we have been told by the district that we will again receive iPad devices for our WC students, there has been no confirmation of a delivery date, nor has there been confirmation that the devices will meet the requirements for testing. Therefore, we recommend the purchase of chrome books for our third grade classes to share. The total amount for 36 chrome books, required software, cart, and set-up is \$16K.

Academic/Educational Goals in the Strategic Plan:

During faculty Professional Development, the faculty continued their work on the Academic/Educational Goals for the strategic plan in the areas of: Social/Emotional, Digital Citizenship and Literacy, and Academic Supports.

Environmental Stewardship:

Beach Clean-A-Thon

OCS is proud to share that we will once again hold our Beach Clean-A-Thon community service and fundraising event this year in April. All students will participate in a day of service to help clean and beautify our local coastline. OCS will work in collaboration with Heal the Bay and other local environmental groups to build a deeper sense of environmental stewardship within our community.

Diversity and Tolerance in our Multi-Cultural World:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Assembly

OCS WC campus students will participate in an MLK assembly on February 19th with Westchester High School students and Incubator middle school students. The event will feature OCS students doing African drumming, OCS students singing/dancing, a MLK impersonator who will deliver a speech or two, and a female actor performing various roles as significant, historical African-American women. The goal of the event is to keep the legacy of Dr. King alive and relevant for us all. It is also a wonderful way to bring the three co-located schools together in the larger spirit of tolerance, diversity, and inter-connectedness.

Music and Leadership Program:

OCS PEACE PLAYERS

"Being a Peace Player is not just about drumming. It is also about being of service, being an ambassador for Ocean Charter and our families, for the tradition of African Drumming and having fun." - Mr. Rivers

The OCS Peace Players are the middle school students who participate in our after school advanced Percussion class with Gerald Rivers. These students have all participated in either our Percussion elective class or have prior experience drumming outside of school. The Peace Players travel around the

city to various events to share their African drumming skills with other schools, communities and organizations. So far this year, the OCS Peace Players have performed at the Culver City Senior Center, the Willowbrook Boys and Girls Club, and JPL in Pasadena.

Japanese Program:

OCS wishes to express our deep gratitude to JBA for once again awarding our Japanese program with a generous gift of \$1,500. The award, given through JBA's Japanese Enrichment Grant program, will go directly to supporting our 4th grade "Momotaro" play as well as to purchase a class set of Farewell to Manzanar books for our 8th grade students who are studying American history. OCS also wishes to thank Hiromi Sensei for her tireless dedication and leadership of our Japanese program.