



Directors' Report
November 1, 2018

ADMINISTRATION

DR Campus Update

- Teachers opened their classrooms to the community and shared impressive student main lesson bookwork, paintings, beeswax sculptures, handwork, and projects during the Del Rey Open House on October 25th! The DR Open House incorporated a dinner fundraiser provided by Sharkey's, the Book Faire, and culminated with the beloved *Knight of the Bedtime Stories*.
- On October 31st, the 1st-3rd grade students enjoyed a costume parade around the DR campus and the neighborhood surrounding the Panama campus! Following the parade, 1st-3rd grade students participated in a festive fall assembly with each class sharing songs, poems, and recitations.

WC Campus Update

- The first middle school, for 7th and 8th only, dance will be this Friday, Nov.2. The 8th grade classes host this dance as a fundraiser for their class trips. In the spring, the 7th grade classes will host a dance for 6th -8th grade as a fundraiser for their classes. The theme of this dance is masquerade. The students have created beautiful signs promoting the dance while parents are helping to coordinate decorations, raffle prizes, and food.
- The WC campus celebrated Halloween with an all campus assembly in which each class shared a song, poem, recorder piece or dance. Students loved seeing each other's costumes and supporting each other in their performances. Dance Elective surprised us with a flash mob to Ghost Busters, which nicely complimented an earlier dance performance by 4th grade of Thriller!
- OCS administration continues to meet every 2 weeks with our co-located partners to discuss campus issues and plan for our shared Great Public Schools Now grant. Pick-up and Drop-off procedures continue to be a focus on our meetings, as well as campus safety.
- The WC faculty is focusing on supporting healthy social play and interactions on the recess yard between 4th – 8th graders. Developing healthy social emotional capacities is inherent in Waldorf Education; our faculty and staff are expanding



this work to focus on integrating new students in our school culture and on building relationships amongst the various classes so they create respectful interactions while at recess.

- This is the final week of our first middle school sports season of co-ed Flag Football and Girls' Volleyball. OCS participated in the FIYA league and competes against other local charter, public, private, and parochial schools. This year was a building year for our teams. Our coaches are proud of the effort, sportsmanship and team spirit that our student athletes displayed. The next season is basketball for boys and girls.
- Our Prop 39 application for 2019-2020 has been submitted. This is the final Prop 39 application OCS will submit as we will be in our new Panama campus for Fall 2020.

School Safety Drill

On October 18th, OCS students on both campuses participated in the Great California ShakeOut, an earthquake drill where students practiced what to do to be safe in the event of a major earthquake. Students, faculty and staff practiced "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" and other safety procedures as part of the ShakeOut drill.

Annual Performance-Based Oversight Visit

The Charter Schools Division (CSD) and OCS have agreed upon alternative dates for the oversight visit. The CSD will now conduct the annual performance review on Friday, January 18th and Friday, January 25th.

Enrollment as of 10/31/18

K=55
TK=26
1st=80
2nd=55
3rd=56
4th=45
5th=56
6th=47
7th=52
8th=51
Total=523

SCHOOL EVENTS:

BOOK FAIRE



Students and parents on both campuses enjoyed our annual book faire. Totals are still being calculated for funds raised. Administration thanks our Diversity and Equity Committee members who helped bring a wider diversity of stories to the faire, and in the *Knight of the Bedtime Stories*. Thanks also to the OCS Crafters whose handmade creations, such as mini hedgehogs, were a big hit among young and old alike!

KNIGHT OF THE BEDTIME STORIES

The entire community enjoyed a medley of stories told by talented OCS parents, grandparents, and teachers during the beloved annual *Knight of the Bedtime Stories* event held the evening of October 25th. Students of all ages arrived in pajamas, snuggled on blankets in the “Egg” as they listened to the delightful stories.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:

Professional Development for Faculty and Staff

On November 1st, faculty and staff will participate in professional development training including breakout sessions in the following areas: differentiation in math and CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction), writing and review of common core standards and color-coded expository paragraphs, Cyber Civics, Waldorf Educational Support (Curative Education, Four Temperaments, and Steiner’s view of Child Development), DVR preparation, and mindfulness.

WASC update

WASC accreditation has been a long-term goal for Ocean Charter School, and we undertake the self-study module and consider the accompanying formal report very seriously. During the last 2.5 years since the initial WASC visit, OCS purchased a 2.1 acre parcel of land in Del Rey, California through a Prop 1D (matching loan/grant), and with temporary assistance from Bond investors. Once the land was acquired, the Board/Site Task Force, administration, and faculty hired and worked in collaboration with project managers, a team of architects, and construction team to design the building, break ground, and begin construction on the permanent facility. This has been an intensive process that has required the full-time attention of the Board/Site Task Force, administration, and faculty.

Last school year, charter renewal was also a primary focus, which took priority and OCS was granted a 5-year charter, extending from 2018-2023. In addition, OCS has 2 new members of our administrative team, 5 new faculty members, and 4 new members of the Board of Trustees, all whom have required extra time and training to deepen their understanding of OCS’s mission and vision, and our public Waldorf educational program. Therefore, we have requested an extension for our visit until the spring of 2020 to allow more time to reflect on how our school has improved over the years and continued areas for growth.

Mentoring Support at Ocean Charter School

12606 Culver Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90066 phone 310 827-5511 fax 310 827-2012
7400 W. Manchester Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90045 phone 310 348-9050 fax 310 348-9085
www.oceancharterschool.org



Peer Mentoring: OCS teachers new to Waldorf Education receive individual mentoring from experienced, Waldorf-trained teachers through weekly meetings, class observations of peers, and class observations by the mentor. This ongoing support by knowledgeable OCS Waldorf teachers has proven invaluable to our new teachers.

Peer Visits: Administration is working with teachers to establish regular visitations among the classrooms so teachers can see what others are doing in their main lessons, and meet afterwards to discuss impressions, observations, and reflections.

Art Support: Weekly art lessons that include chalkboard drawing, painting, and pastel are provided by Ms. Mendoza (one of our 8th grade, Waldorf-trained teachers) every Monday after school at the WC campus for teachers from both campuses. Both new and experienced teachers attend these sessions to further develop their artistic skills and to prepare specific art pieces for their classes.

Music Support: Weekly singing and recorder support is provided to new teachers and teachers still developing their music and singing curriculum by Joan Newton, a Waldorf music specialty teacher. Ms. Newton meets with teachers and visits classrooms to teach new songs and model how to effectively develop the singing and recorder curriculum in the classroom.

Support for PT Faculty and Staff: Part-time staff and faculty are participating in a series of 3 workshops led by Ms. Elizabeth about Waldorf Education. The first occurred at the start of the year, the second is Nov. 1st, and the third is during our PD day in February. These workshops give pedagogical background from a Waldorf perspective as well as offer discussion about practical strategies and considerations when working with our students.

Looking at Gender Equity in the Classroom

Our faculty continues to meet with the Diversity and Equity members to discuss relevant research and share resources that promote diversity and equity. Our last topic of focus was gender equity. The DEC shared a few articles with the faculty that prompted reflection and discussion on how boys and girls are treated in the classroom, as well as how their needs might be different. This discussion will continue as we explore ways to support all students finding success at school.

Student Suspension at Ocean Charter School

LAUSD awarded OCS a Certificate of Achievement in recognition of the school supporting students, resulting in a 0.0% student suspension rate in 2017-2018. One strategy used in lieu of student suspension is to have 4th-8th grade students spend a day in a lower grade classroom assisting students at the Del Rey campus. Teachers and administration have found this to be an effective alternative to suspension, as students serving at the lower school campus mostly return with a new perspective.



CAASPP Standardized Testing Analysis:

Teachers have been analyzing their class results for trends, including: overall % met or above standard; by ethnicity; by gender; by EL status; by Sped/not-Sped in both English Language Arts and Math.

Administration is looking at school-wide trends, comparisons to the state and district, and comparisons to similar schools. Results will be shared at the meeting.

Coming School Events:

- **November 12th-16th, Monday-Friday, Parent/Teacher Conference Week, EARLY RELEASE**
- **November 19th-23rd, Thanksgiving Break, NO SCHOOL**
- **December 15th, Saturday-Winter Faire SAVE THE DATE**