

Directors' Report  
March 2, 2023

*Human beings of initiative  
Human beings interested in the world  
Human beings who seek the truth  
Human beings who will not sour.*

These words were spoken by Rudolf Steiner in a lecture to teachers describing the healthy and inspired teacher. They also describe the kind of human beings Waldorf Education seeks to foster. ( Practical Advice to Teachers, lecture 14)

## **Educational Program**

### **LAUSD Annual Performance-Based Oversight Visit:**

The Charter Schools Division Team and the OCS Administrative Team continue to work together collaboratively following the annual Performance-Based Oversight visit. OCS will soon receive a score based on a 4-point rubric in each of the following areas:

Category I: Governance

Category II: Student Achievement and Educational Performance

Category III: Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations

Category IV: Fiscal Operations

### **Professional Development:**

- OCS Faculty received refresher training in Special Education, including FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and Inclusion (commitment to educate each child, to the maximum extent appropriate, in the school and classroom he or she would otherwise attend). Ms. Renee Williams, Ms. Andrea Doran, and Ms. Sherita Rogers from LAUSD provided a deeper dive to understanding the rights of all students, and specifically those students with exceptional needs. **Confidentiality is of the utmost importance. All elements of the law with regard to student privacy apply to verbal, written or any form of sharing student information with parents who inquire about other children who are not theirs.**
- How and when to correctly complete Incident Reports was presented by Ms. Angela Baas-Rodriguez
- CAASPP training was provided by Ms. Aly for all 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in preparation for annual state standardized testing in May.
- Gradalis **Understanding Waldorf Education** mentors Bonnie River, Thom Schafer and Donna Newberg-Long are observing and mentoring OCS teachers enrolled

- in the UWE program.
- Sustain Circle Committee: A group of teachers have formed our Sustaining Circle Practice Committee. This group will support the ongoing and consistent practice of circle in all classrooms at OCS by sharing resources, coaching, and leading/co-leading circles as needed. They will also foster circle experiences for faculty and staff and collaborate with our parent circle facilitators.

### **Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs):**

- ELO was offered during the February Renewal week from Tuesday - Friday. Between 21 – 28 students attended.
- An additional ELO will be available during Spring break.
- These offerings include academic support in Reading, Writing and Math with project-based learning activities to support students' foundational skills and foster their excitement about learning.
- Offerings also include art-based enrichment, movement and games, and social interactions to support healthy social emotional development.

### **Community Events**

#### **Ocean Gala at the ROXY**

The Gala event Captains are planning an Ocean Gala in person this year! The event was formerly known as *The Silent Auction*. The Ocean Gala will be held at the world famous, legendary ROXY on Sunset. OCS thanks Nic Adler and the Adler family for generously donating the ROXY for a night of fun on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be music, food, drinks, and beautiful handcrafted items to bid for in the silent auction. This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Roxy and to celebrate, guests are requested to dress in their 70s best attire to dance the night away!

#### **Grandparents' Day**

OCS had the privilege of welcoming hundreds of grandparents and special elders for the first time on our new campus to be celebrated on Valentine's Day.

Grandparents arrived at school in the morning and joined an assembly in the gym where Ms. Edwards welcomed them and shared a brief history about the new campus. Many grandparents shared that they had attended Grandparents' Day prior to the pandemic at the former Del Rey or Westchester campus. Nearly half of the grandparents and elders traveled from out of state and five grandparents flew from out of the country (e.g. Israel, Spain, Sweden, Mexico, and Canada) to attend Grandparents' Day at OCS! Hiromi Sensei led students from Ms. Megan's, Mrs. Ferry's, and Ms. Ellie's fifth grade classes in a beautiful Japanese song. The fifth grade students sang like angels!

Ms. Kristy shared about the context of OCS in Waldorf and the world, and highlights of some key elements of Waldorf Education. The Grandparents and Special Elders enjoyed the Ocean Charter School film, *A Vision of Life*.

Ms. Laura Stoland thanked the grandparents for attending and encouraged them to support their grandchild's unique experience at OCS by donating. Following the presentation, the Student Safety Patrol team escorted Grandparents to their grandchildren's classrooms to enjoy an hour of main lesson time. At the culmination of the celebration, grandparents enjoyed recess time and beautiful refreshments baked by the parents and served by the Parent Collective.

## **Governance**

### **Alliance For Public Waldorf Education: Self Study**

The Self-Study process will include a deep dive into the Core Principles of Public Waldorf Education over time with all stakeholders. During the February 16<sup>th</sup> Governance meeting, committee members began engaging in the self-study process starting with the first of the 7 Core Principles. The committee members discussed the Image of the Human Being: *Public Waldorf education is founded on a coherent image of the developing human being.*

During the PC/Admin Collaborative meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Directors and the Parent Collective also engaged in a discussion of Core Principle 1 - Image of the Human Being.

The Board of Trustees will discuss the first Core Principle during the March Board meeting, and the faculty will begin their own discussion during faculty meeting time.

## **Finance**

### **2023-2024 Budget Preparation**

Based on the Governor's proposed budget, the Finance Committee will review two proposed budget scenarios, one that assumes that the Arts and Music Block Grant is cut by 30%, and one that includes the full original allocation of the Arts and Music Block funds.

### **Prop 1D Site Audit update**

The Prop 1D Site Audit is in process. The Finance Committee reviewed and approved of the following proposed language provided by ExED in response to the finding by the Christy White auditing firm:

**Finding:** The Charter did not deposit into the Restricted Maintenance Account a minimum of three percent of the LEA's total expenditures for fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21. As of June 30, 2022, the Charter has deposited the cumulative amount for 2019-20 and 2020-21 to the Restricted Maintenance Account.



### **Views of Responsible Officials:**

Ocean Charter School executed the Charter School Facilities Funding Agreement in December 2017. The agreement did not include a requirement to establish a maintenance reserve account or the need for 3% of total expenditures to be deposited every year into this reserve. The reserve requirement was brought to Ocean's attention by the Site Project auditor, Christy White Associates (CWA), when Ocean engaged with CWA to perform the SFP audit. The requirement commenced in FY19-20 which was 3 years after the project had started and project agreements were executed. Ocean has established a Restricted Maintenance Account and deposited the required cumulative 3% of expenditures for fiscal years 19-20 and 20-21 as of fiscal year 21-22.

## **Operations**

### **Teacher Recruitment**

It's hiring season; OCS is actively seeking class teachers with Waldorf experience and California teaching credentials.

### **2023-2024 Calendar Negotiations**

OCS and OCTA reached a resolution with regard to calendar negotiations for next school year. The proposal is on the March 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda for Board discussion and possible approval.

### **Universal Food Program**

From Aug 1 – Jan 31, 2023, OCS served a total of 34,050 meals. The breakdown of the type of meals and the eligibility of students receiving the meals is below.

#### **Meals Served**

Breakfast - 106 days, 7,953 meals

Lunch - 109 days, 21,050 meals

Snack - 60 days, 5,047 Meals

#### **Eligibility % of students who received a meal:**

Free - 16 %

Reduced - 3%

Paid - 81%

Note: Paid and reduced are also served meals for free.

#### **Total OCS FRL %:**

20%



## Outreach & Enrollment

### **Alumni Night**

OCS will welcome alumni back to share about their transition to high school, their own high school experience and (perhaps) about their transition to college as OCS graduates on **Monday, March 6th**. This event will be held in person and is an opportunity for alumni to see each other as well as for current OCS students and parents to learn about life after OCS.