

## **Director's Report**

### **April 11th, 2024**

Receive the children in reverence.  
Educate them with love.  
Send them forth in freedom.  
~ Rudolf Steiner

### **Educational Program**

#### **Professional Development**

- Waldorf Training - Building Bridges: Outreach to identify interested teachers and staff is underway following the information session held with Torin Finser in late March. The goal is to solidify at least 15 participants for an LA Building Bridges cohort. Participants may be from any southern California Waldorf schools, public or private. Administration is pursuing an opportunity to fund a significant amount of the tuition for OCS teacher participation through grant funding for professional development.
- Ocean Institute Summer 2024: The OCS Summer Institute will be coordinated by Ms. Mendoza, experienced OCS Waldorf teacher and Waldorf mentor. Confirmed faculty include Bonnie River, Dennis Demanet, and Ania Kubik thus far. The Institute will be held during the last two weeks of June. Specific grade level sessions will be offered as well as particular topic areas and arts. OCS teachers as well as other Southern California Waldorf teachers are welcome to attend. Outreach and staffing will be finalized in April.
- Alliance for Public Waldorf Education: The Alliance will hold its October Board meeting at OCS in preparation for the 2025 Alliance Conference at OCS in January. Administration may participate in school visits with Alliance leadership this spring to other public, local Waldorf schools as part of the path to Alliance membership for these other schools and for OCS.

#### **Assessment**

- CAASPP preparation: OCS teachers are preparing for annual statewide testing in grades 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> in May through training on: test procedures and security; preparing students academically with content and test-taking strategies; and, supporting students emotionally and mentally during testing. OCS will conduct a practice test for all students in grades 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this practice test is to test technical preparedness as well as identify any procedural issues that

need to be addressed prior to actual testing in May. Students will take the practice test in their assigned small groups when appropriate and with accommodations per their IEPs and 504 plans.

## **Operations**

### **Lottery**

- The annual OCS lottery was held in late February on zoom. Roughly 50 participants signed in to observe and see their child's draw. Ongoing follow-up with applicants is underway with offers going out in early April.

### **Student Registration**

- New students as well as returning students will be registering for the 24-25 school year in the next few weeks. The registration has been updated to more clearly reflect OCS' foundation as a public Waldorf school, specifically in the areas of media and dress code.

### **Facilities**

- Kitchen dishwasher: A dishwasher is being installed in the kitchen this spring using Kitchen Infrastructure grant funds. Administration is also exploring installing dishwashers in the kindergarten classrooms, but viability may be an issue.
- Electrical maintenance: Maintenance of lights in a few classrooms on campus is needed as some lighting systems are not functioning properly. Our Maintenance Coordinator is working to secure quotes for the quote from district approved electricians.

## **Climate and Culture**

### **Community Events**

- The second class meetings of the year have been held in most classrooms. Teachers are typically sharing updates on the curriculum and child development, parent volunteer leaders are engaging parents in volunteer opportunities, and all parents are gathering for connection and relationship building. It is apparent that many classes are still working to form a classroom community among the parent body, particularly in classes that were formed during the pandemic. Activities that bring parents together to talk and listen about shared experiences and goals, as well as challenges, are more important now than ever. Administration with support from one of our Waldorf mentor teachers, Ania Kubik, as well as from our ombudsperson, Deborah Fryman, has helped facilitate and support a few of these meetings.

## **Governance**

### **WASC Mid-Cycle Report draft**

- OCS' WASC mid-cycle report draft was submitted in March. During our virtual visit in mid- April, multiple interested groups will be asked to reflect on the

development of the mid-cycle report as well as on our updated action plan. Possible revisions will occur after feedback from our WASC reviewer is received. The mid-cycle draft report is attached. To date, we have not received any feedback on it from the WASC reviewer.

## **Finance**

### **Educator Effectiveness**

- Administration is planning to allocate the remaining Educator Effectiveness funds to support teacher participation in the Explorations and Building Bridges professional development opportunities. These trainings are consistent with the stated goals and priorities in the OCS Educator Effectiveness Plan.

### **Prop 28**

- The following information was included in the March Director's Report. A draft plan with required financial templates will be brought for Board review and approval to the May Board meeting.

#### Background:

- Prop 28 funds can be spent up to 3 years
- Supplement not supplant requirement for arts programs/training
- OCS' allocation in 23-24 is \$69,464
- Allowable expenses: Arts education program" includes (but is not limited to) instruction and training, supplies, materials, and arts educational partnership programs for instruction in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts including folk art, painting, sculpture, photography, craft arts, creative expression including graphic arts and design, computer coding, animation, music composition, ensembles, script writing, costume design, film, and video.
- <https://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/in/prop28artsandmusicdfundingfaq.asp>

#### Plan:

OCS will use Prop 28 funds to expand arts education programming for our students through instruction, training, supplies, materials and partnerships. As OCS is already an arts-based program, new opportunities to bring the arts to our students will be pursued as well as training to deepen and expand arts experiences for our students with teachers who do not have arts training or experience.

#### 23 – 24 Allocations to date:

- Sculpture Elective: roughly \$6,300
- Theatre Arts Elective: roughly \$3,500
- Singing, painting, sculpting, and music instruction to students in collaboration with the class teachers who are not yet fully trained in these arts: roughly \$15,000



- Training in singing: roughly \$3,000
- Training in the visual arts: roughly \$3,000