

## **Director's Report**

### **October 10, 2024**

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

### **Educational Program**

#### **LAUSD Annual Oversight Visit:**

The LAUSD Annual Oversight Visit will be on Friday, Nov. 15, 2024. OCS has a new Charter Schools Division Specialist, Kristi Maar, this year. She and Andrea Ines, Fiscal Oversight Manager, will be OCS' team this year. Administration and ExEd are already in the process of preparing and submitting all the required documentation. This visit is likely the final visit before charter renewal next year in 2025-26. These annual oversight visits form the foundation of the LAUSD Charter School Division's recommendation to the LAUSD Board on charter renewal and terms.

#### **Charter Renewal in 2025-26:**

OCS is up for renewal in 2025-26. Administration will be preparing this year by attending trainings regarding updates to the process and will begin the work on updating our charter petition language since our last renewal. The district will primarily consider the results of our annual oversight visits that include fiscal, governance, student performance and organizational management.

#### **Deepening OCS' Commitment to Public Waldorf Education:**

Alliance for Public Waldorf Education: Planning for the January Alliance Conference at OCS is underway with an exciting line-up of speakers and workshop series.

OCS Summer Institute: OCS plans to have our Summer Institute flier ready for sharing at the January Alliance conference.

Building Bridges: OCS has 13 teachers registered for the Building Bridges program that begins at OCS on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Waldorf mentoring: A team of Waldorf mentors including Bonnie River, Dennis Demanet, Ania Kubik, Anjum Mir, Brenan Yack, and Mari Shintani are supporting OCS teachers in a variety of aspects of public Waldorf Education this year, including: child development, visual arts-integration, inner work, building community, storytelling, flute/recorder, singing, movement, and Waldorf and standards alignment.



### **Internal Assessments:**

Please see the attached analysis of Fall 2024 NWEA benchmark testing.

### **Governance**

School Climate: Please find attached OCS' policies regarding Schoolwide Positive Behavior Supports; Communication; and Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination and Bullying.

The California Charter School Association (CCSA): Administration is participating in charter renewal sessions with CCSA to prepare for renewal next year. Administration is also working with CCSA to build relationships with our elected officials to support OCS specifically and effective charter schools generally.

### **CalSAAS:**

What is CalSAAS:

CalSAAS is a new system of Assignment Monitoring allowing annual monitoring of all certificated educator assignments. CalSAAS works through the comparison of the California Department of Education's California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) assignment data and the Commission's Credential authorization data by educator's California Statewide Educator Identifier (SEID). Through this comparison the system identifies questionable assignments, referred to as "exceptions", and provides Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and County Offices of Education (COE) with an opportunity to address anomalies, and correct misassignments.

Current Status:

OCS is working with our LAUSD CalSAAS Credentials and Contract Supervisor on identified misassignments. OCS has submitted documentation regarding the misassignments that should correct them, however administration is still in discussion with the district on this process. A further update will be brought to the Board once a conclusion is reached.

Wellness Committee:

The Wellness Committee had its first meeting of the year and established the topics we will explore in our next meeting, including: quality of our breakfast and lunch meals, including milk and organic food; waste; gardening program; water filters; physical activity; and wellness education at home.

### **Operations**

#### **Staffing**

Gardening: A 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Gardening Teacher has been hired and has begun sharing lessons with both 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes.

Maintenance Coordinator: Administration has interviewed 3 candidates for the position and expects to be making an offer soon. Given the role and responsibilities, duties may need to be divided between a part-time person who handles the project-management aspects with vendors and the district with some daily operational duties and a full-time person who handles more of the daily operational needs.

### **Volunteers**

The OCS Green Team: A dedicated group of parent volunteers is meeting weekly in the rooftop garden to support OCS gardening program.

The PC Coordinators: The PC Coordinators are working diligently to fill all captain roles and to support captains in recruiting volunteers for our many events and activities. The PC has been creating a digital parent volunteer resource for all captains to use moving forward so volunteers are not starting from scratch year after year.

### **Events**

Hispanic Heritage Community Dance: OCS staff and parents collaborated to host a wonderful celebration of Hispanic heritage. The community came together to dance, eat, and enjoy one another. Leadership students learned a few of the dances beforehand so helped encourage younger students and peers to join in the dancing fun. An OCS parent and OCS student played in the band and everyone had a terrific time. Planning for next year's event has already begun under Ms. Maryangee's guidance as she is inspired to help OCS deepen our Hispanic Heritage celebration.

Festivals of Courage: All students have or will participate in a Festival of Courage. The festival typically involves creative games of strength and courage that students participate in amid a flurry of fiery, fall colors of orange, red, and gold. Many classes partnered with their buddy class for the festivity that is built on the theme of overcoming our fears. Various interpretations of this theme were shared across the grades in ways that speak to the cultural diversity of our school population and to the focus areas within each grade level.

High School Information Night: Roughly 55 parents joined the zoom to learn about the high school search and application process, and to hear from alumni parents about various options in the LA area. Five alumni parents shared their processes and briefly about their final choice of schools, highlighting the great variety of options available to families. Feedback from attendees is that it was very helpful to our middle school families.