

## Director's Report

August 7, 2025

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

### Educational Program

#### Professional Development:

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

OCS Summer Institute: The OCSSI was held the week of June 23<sup>rd</sup> with 17 participants in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive about all aspects of the training, including main lesson work, music/singing, arts, and pedagogy.

Building Bridges: BB resumes this Fall 2025.

Mentoring: A team of talented mentors will be supporting OCS teachers with deepening their understanding of Waldorf Education and/or credentialing this year, including: Bonnie River, Ania Kubik, Dennis Demanet, Tomasa Mendoza, Brenan Yack, Stephanie Becker, Mari Shintani, and Emily Smith.

##### **Math:**

UCLA Math CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction) Training: 3 OCS teachers attended the UCLA Math professional development this summer focused on using CGI techniques in math lessons to boost engagement, problem solving, and mathematical thinking. They will be sharing strategies and practices with the full faculty during faculty meetings and leading CGI exercises to model for other teachers over the course of the year.

##### **In-Service Trainings:**

Faculty and staff have been participating in trainings all week long focused on preparing for the coming year. The focus of the trainings ranges from orienting new teachers to OCS, to building strong relationships with clear communication among all class and specialty teachers, to emergency and attendance procedures, to Cool Tools and social-emotional learning.

### Operations

**Notice to Cure:**

OCS responded to the LAUSD Notice to Cure regarding suspension rates in 2023-24 with detailed analysis and background of the data. The district responded as follows:

“I wanted to personally thank you for your thoughtful and thorough response to the Notice to Cure. We truly appreciate the work your team has done to address the concern, as well as the clear communication of next steps outlined in your response.

While we do not issue any formal communication indicating that a Notice to Cure has been resolved, I can share that we do not have any further questions at this time. In the interest of transparency, I also want to note that our renewal process includes a comprehensive review of multiple data points, including a school’s record of tiered intervention (e.g., Notice of Concern, Notice to Cure, etc.). It’s possible that additional questions could arise during the renewal process, but we want to acknowledge the strong work your team has already demonstrated in this area.”

**Hiring:** OCS welcomes 4 new class teachers, 1 new intervention teacher, and 1 new elective teacher this year. Hiring continues for Aftercare and coaches for sports teams.

**Enrollment:** OCS enrollment and registration coordinators are completing the process for enrolling all new students as quickly as possible so as many new students are able to start on our first day of school as possible. As occurs every year, we expect to see some ongoing updates in class rosters as the year begins through the first week or so of school.

**OCS Summer Camp:** Congratulations to Ms. Nelly and her team of summer camp supervisors on offering a terrific program this summer! Students gave rave reviews of their experience, leaving each day with smiling faces and tired bodies.

**New Parent Orientations:** New parent orientations were held Saturday, June 21, 2025 and Tuesday, August 5, 2025. These orientations were led by Ms. Kristy and Ms. Megan and include information about “Wait Until (after) 8<sup>th</sup>”, the national effort to reduce screentime and social media use among children that is running strong in the OCS parent community.

**Japanese Camp:** A small group of new students has participated in Japanese Camp this week. Their experience helps orient them not only to our Japanese Program but also to Waldorf Education. In addition, they meet other new students and become familiar with the campus all of which supports their smooth transition from day 1 of the year. Thanks to Hiromi Sensei for offering a great program once again.



**Ice Cream Social:** The annual Ice Cream Social will be held this Thursday to welcome all OCS families back for the new year. Introductions will include our fabulous new Parent Coordinators, the Board Chair, and all OCS faculty and staff. 4 vendors will offer refreshing and somewhat healthy treats and families and teachers will be able to meet and greet each other before the first day.

**New Family Summer Meet-Ups:** The PC Coordinators hosted one summer meet-up for OCS families in June and is hosting the second this weekend at Alla Park with the goal of welcoming new families and helping returning and new families connect before the first day of school.