

## Calendar

**Fri Nov 11** Martinmas Lantern Walk – 4:30 p.m. – starting at the school

**Sat Nov 12** All-School Work Day – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Tue Nov 15** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip – leaving at 7:30 a.m.

**Thu Nov 17** Fall Middle School Music Sharing – 6:30 p.m. – in the school gym

**Fri Nov 18** Craft Night – 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. – see inside for details

**Sat Nov 19** Waldorf Education Series – The Developing Child and the Waldorf Curriculum – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

**Sat Nov 19** Puppet and Play Morning – details to come

**Tue Nov 22** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Eurythmy Performance

**Wed-Fri Nov 23-25** Thanksgiving Break – No School

**Sat Nov 26** Craft Night – 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. – see inside for details

**Wed Nov 30** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom

**Wed Nov 30** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade classroom

## Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Nov 11— *Martinmas Festival –  
Open Assembly*

Nov 18 — *No Assembly*

Nov 25 — *Thanksgiving Break – No School*

## What's Cooking!

### Martinmas Activities

On **Friday, November 11, at 4:30 p.m.**, the Kindergartens - Grade 4 will celebrate the festival of Martinmas with our traditional Lantern Walk. The walk will begin at school with Kindergarten - Grade 4 children gathering in their classrooms and lighting their lanterns. Alumni and older children who will not be walking with their parents or younger siblings are welcome to gather with Ms. Marianne Fieber-Dhara in an assigned upper grades classroom with their lanterns from home. There will be a walk through the neighborhood that will conclude at The Flower Basket where there will be song and celebration. We will end at The Flower Basket entrance. In the event of inclement weather, we will begin the same, sing in the gym, and process through the hallways for a shortened but loving walk in the school.

- Cinna Derocher,  
Festival Co-Coordinator

### Martinmas Song Practice

After the Friday, November 11, assembly, we will learn and practice the songs that will be sung on this year's Lantern Walk. Please join us!

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

### Fall Middle School Music Sharing

**Thursday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.**

This year, our Fall Middle School Music Sharing will feature our 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The program will take place in the school gym starting at 6:30 p.m.

- Monika Sutherland, Music Teacher

### Concert Clothing Assistance Required

A Parent Volunteer is needed to assist in cleaning, pressing, and organizing the concert clothes for borrowing before the Fall Music Sharing. Please call Monika Sutherland at 920-421-2075 or email at [monika@yellowcello.com](mailto:monika@yellowcello.com) if you can help.

- Monika Sutherland, Music Teacher

**Fear ~ Terror: and the Will's Awakening**

Thank you Bart Eddy and Tim Alexander for sharing with PRWS and YIHS faculty members during our in-service day as we focused on the development of will forces through the Waldorf curriculum. We walked together to the school gardens and land we know of as The Flower Basket and, following a walk around the perimeter, began to share thoughts and questions regarding how to best embrace this remarkable resource for our school and community.



In the evening on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bart and Tim took us on a journey into the darkness of fear and terror which we may feel in these days and offered ways to climb out into the light through working in community and through collaboration to awaken a collective social will. Bart opened his presentations with the following verse, which continues to be a potent balm for today.

We must eradicate from the soul  
All fear and terror of what  
Comes out of the future.  
We must acquire serenity  
In all feelings and sensations  
About the future.

~  
We must look forward  
With absolute equanimity  
To everything that may come,

And we must think only that  
Whatever comes is given to us  
By a world direction  
Full of wisdom.

~  
It is part of what we  
Must learn in this age.  
Namely, to live out of pure  
Trust, without any security  
In existence.

Trusting the ever present  
Help of the spiritual world.

~  
Truly, nothing else will do  
If our courage is not to fail us.  
Let us discipline our will  
And let us seek the awakening  
Within ourselves,  
Every morning and every evening.

~Rudolf Steiner

Bart and Tim's work in Detroit has cultivated a "rising from the ashes" for the city and is an inspiration. To explore more of Bart Eddy's work with young peoples, follow this link.  
<http://stamps.umich.edu/creative-work/stories/making-the-future>

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

## SCHOOL EVENTS

**Save the Date for the November 12  
All-School Workday**

Please plan to join us for some satisfying work, great food, and social time during our upcoming All-School Workday on Saturday, November 12. We have a few important indoor and outdoor tasks to tackle before the onset of winter and are hoping for about 35-40 volunteers to get everything in tip-top shape. A couple of hours of your time within the **9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** window would go a long way toward this goal. If you are new to the school and are looking for a tangible way to

pitch in while meeting other families, this is a great opportunity! As usual, we will be providing homemade lunch and coordinating the effort.

- PRWS Facilities Committee

## The Developing Child and the Waldorf Curriculum

**Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in the PRWS music room**

Join us for an exploration of how the Waldorf curriculum unfolds, both inwardly and outwardly, for the developing child. Using the underlying gestures of imitation, imagination, and inspiration as our guide, we will move through the grades and curriculum to witness how education is a journey for children. Following a short presentation, we will take a tour of the classrooms to see the book work of the children and the blackboards of the teachers as one sign of the living Waldorf curriculum. Conversation and sharing will complete our morning time together. Childcare provided. Please RSVP to Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org).

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

## Puppet and Play Morning

Parents and young children are invited to join Ms. Martha on **November 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** for a play and a seasonal puppet story. These mornings are a great opportunity for families with young children to celebrate the changing of the seasons together and to experience the nurturing environment of our early childhood program. These mornings are **FREE** and all are invited to join us, although space is limited – registration is encouraged. Mornings will be held in the PRWS Parent-Child room. Please RSVP to Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org).

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

## Twinklefest Parade

PRWS will be participating in the Twinklefest Parade again this year, and we are looking for families to join us. The parade is on **Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.** So if you are in town and would like to be involved, please contact Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org).

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

# ADMIN NEWS

## December Hot Lunch Form Due ASAP

The new December Hot Lunch Menu is attached to the back of this Lunchbox Express. **Please fill it out and return it as soon as possible.** Because of the Thanksgiving break, there will be little time to process all the forms before the start of a new month. Thank you!

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

## Afterschool Pick-Up Times and the Aftercare Program

On page 17 of our current Parent Handbook, it is stated that the “**school day ends at 2:45 p.m. for all children.**” We ask that children be picked-up right after school. We have offered an allowance of 15 minutes with the expectation that children will be picked up no later than 3:00 p.m. This is happening fairly well, and we appreciate the effort that is being made to ensure children are accounted for by 3:00 p.m.

Now and then, it happens that a parent is running late. Sometimes this is communicated through the office, and sometimes it is not. We appreciate those parents who have called in with an update on their status for pickup and recognize some delays are unavoidable. Beginning this school year, we have an aftercare program which we plan to make use of in the following way: children aged 11 and under who are not picked up by 3:00 p.m. will

be considered "drop-ins" for aftercare. Courtney Maatouk, Aftercare Director, will then supervise the drop-in students beginning at 3:00 p.m. There will be a \$5 per 15-minute late charge assessed after 3:00 p.m.

**This change will go into effect starting after the Thanksgiving Break.**

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

**Afterschool Agreements**

We ask that children not play on the front steps of the school once they have been picked-up by their parent or guardian. It can cause challenges for the safe flow of traffic in and out of the building. We also ask that students be encouraged to play in the Greenspace, if necessary, while waiting to leave the school grounds rather than on the half-wall in front of the east lobby windows beyond the chain-link fence. Thank you.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

**Open Position**

**Afternoon Kindergarten Assistant**

Applications are being accepted immediately for the afternoon mixed-aged kindergarten assistant for the remainder of the school year - beginning as soon as possible. The afternoon assistant will support the work of the kindergarten morning assistant and lead teacher. Qualities we are seeking include an ability to work artistically and creatively, ongoing self-development, and good working relations. Individuals who cultivate flexibility and open-mindedness and are self-motivated and ethical will be strongly considered. This is a part-time position to include 4 hours per day, 5 days per week (11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.). For specific details regarding this position and duties, please refer to the Early Childhood Afternoon Assistant Job Description found on our website.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

**Opportunities –**

**Reading and Math Support**

Rosanne Morici, our dedicated and beloved Title I Reading and Math support colleague, is completing her assessments on our students' reading and math needs. Her time has been limited by the Viroqua school system, and she will be unable to meet all the students' needs. We are therefore looking to identify a few individuals who will assist Rosanne's work in supporting the children. If you have an hour or two and would be willing to meet with a single or small group to work on reading and math, Rosanne is willing to direct your efforts. Please call Marianne at 608-637-7828 if you are interested in hearing more about this opportunity to support our students.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

**Hosting Opportunity – January 2017**

In January 2017, Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School will be hosting six students from South Korea. A couple of them are return visitors from last year, and several are new. Once again, we are turning to our generous and hospitable community to find hosts to welcome them during their stay. There is information on the flier at the back of this Lunchbox Express as well as posted information on the bulletin board across from the office.

The students we are expecting are:

Ji-won – Grade 8 (girl)

Eo-jin – Grade 7 (girl)

Kyeong-un – Grade 5 (boy)

Ji-Hun "Cupa" – Grade 5 (boy)

Seo-Ye Jun "Albert" – Grade 4 (boy)

Seo Ye Won – Grade 4 (girl)

Please call Marianne at 608-606-3505 if you are interested in hearing more about how to become a host.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

## **Teacher Feedback - Reminder**

Many parents may have received a feedback form for class teachers and subject teachers during conferences last week.

Comments and suggestions from parents are part of our annual evaluation processes for faculty as well as staff. **We would like to have these forms before the Thanksgiving break.**

Please turn in completed forms to Marianne Fieber-Dhara's office mailbox.

Our faculty evaluation process includes the completion of a self-evaluation, classroom observation by another faculty member and colleague and parent feedback shared through a face-to-face conversation.

This full evaluation process is completed every other year. During the alternate year, the evaluation consists of colleague and parent feedback delivered through a face-to-face conversation with a member of the Personnel Committee.

We value parent participation in this process. Attached at the end of this Lunchbox Express, please find copies of the parent feedback forms. They are also available in the office. Thank you.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

## **When School is Closed due to Inclement Weather**

It's that time of year! Here's the scoop on winter-weather closings. PRWS (and YIHS) follow the Viroqua School District when it comes to closing for inclement weather. We would only deviate in the case of a closing that is not weather-related or if the VAS school schedule is different than ours (for instance, when they may have a half day already scheduled). We rely on the bus garages, who have their eye on all the roads, to make the safest decision, and - *no matter what - if it doesn't feel safe to drive, don't!* Though only a few PRWS students take the bus, many families and a majority of the faculty and staff drive in, and safety comes first.

## **How do we account for snow days in our calendar?**

Each year the faculty and administration carefully make the yearly schedule, including multiple drafts and much forethought and intention for the health of the children and their families. When the ideal schedule is found, the administration carefully counts up the hours (not days) of the school year with plenty of cushion for those inevitable snow days. When the public school "makes up" hours for snow days at the end of the year, this is actually because of their funding structure.

## **There are many ways to find out if school will be closed or delayed.**

- 1. Text message and/or Email:** Sign up ahead of time by going to [www.news8000.com](http://www.news8000.com). Under the weather tab, find email/text alerts. Sign up for your county. The message will come out as soon as the decision is made.
- 2. Online: [www.news8000.com](http://www.news8000.com) Click on school closings, located under the Weather tab.**
- 3. Call the school [608-637-7828](tel:608-637-7828).** A message will be on the machine by 6:30 a.m. in the case of a closing or delay. In the case of a delay, it's a good idea to check back before the 10:10 a.m. start time in case the weather has turned.
- 4. TV/Radio: WDRT, WVRQ, WKBT, WTCO**

Do you have other questions? Ask a faculty, staff, administration, or board member or a veteran PRWS family. We will find the answer.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

## **Last Chance for Lost and Found Items!**

Our Lost and Found bin runneth over!! It is located in the early childhood hallway next to the parent mailboxes. To help you search for missing items, this Friday (**November 11<sup>th</sup>**) we will put the items out on a table in the hallway for you to search through for any items you may be missing. Anything not claimed by Saturday morning will be added to the Clothing Sharing Cabinet in our hallway or will be taken to Second Time Around or Goodwill.

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

## HOLIDAY FAIRE

### After-School Crafting for Upper-Grade Kids

The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited to come to the handwork room after school on **Thursday, November 10th (tomorrow!), and Thursday, November 17th** to help craft items for the Pocket Person and the Children's Castle. Snacks provided for the worker elves! We will meet until around 4:30 p.m.

### Books for the Pocket Person Please!

Looking for a variety of children's books for the Pocket Person to give out as prizes for the Faire. Please donate gently used books that are in great shape. There will be a box in the school office for them. Baby board books, graphic novels, early readers, young adult fiction....all is appreciated.

### The Jump Ropes Are Back!

The 6th grade will be delighting Faire goers with hand made jump ropes again this year. We need your yarn! Go ahead and put those half used skeins that you've got lying around to good use. Drop them off at the school office. We're happy to take anything you've got.

### Honor Thy Grandmother: Sign up for the Holiday Faire Bake Sale!

There are only a few opportunities to bring your family baked good recipes the honor and attention they deserve, and one of those opportunities is the Holiday Fair Bake Sale. Helping us create a rich spread of special delights can be a full family event - dust off your grandmother's recipe collection and make a mess in that kitchen! Bake and freeze now - thaw and cook the day before the Faire!

There is a large sign-up sheet now available outside the school office - please sign up early for a slot that inspires you. This year we have added a new category: prepacked dried fruits and nuts. These can be in jars or bags and can be savory or sweet and will be perfect

additions to holiday gifts and parties. Do you make a special slightly sweet dehydrated high protein treat that you know others will love? We can help package your goods! Just let us know.

Please contact Julia Ugo (606-9125 and [juliahundt@gmail.com](mailto:juliahundt@gmail.com)) if you have questions.

### Silent Auction Holiday Faire 2016

The time is now to donate items and help create a spectacular Silent Auction at the Holiday Faire! Creative offerings such as consumables (think a basket of homegrown pantry items or bulk storage veggies!) and experiences (think lessons in crafts or music or a weekend in your family's up-north cabin) are great! Fine art, jewelry, and gift certificates for local businesses are wonderful too. Items must be valued at \$25 or more.

Please contact Jess at 608.632.0162 or [PRWholidayfaire@gmail.com](mailto:PRWholidayfaire@gmail.com)

Thank you!

- Holiday Faire Co-Captains

### The Crafting Continues

Join us on the following dates, as we craft homemade items for the Children's Castle:

- November 14th (Monday) from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
- November 18th (Friday) from 7:00 p. m. – 10:00 p.m. at Nan Marshall's home – E7904 Maple Dale Rd. in Viroqua
- November 21th (Monday) from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
- November 26th (Saturday) from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Margret Lenarz's home – 510 S. Rusk in Viroqua
- November 28th (Monday) from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia

- Jordan Brudos,  
Children's Castle Coordinator

## DEVELOPMENT

### Holiday Faire Ice Skating

As in the past, the Viroqua Community Arena has been reserved and is open for Pleasant Ridge children on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, during the Holiday Faire setup. If your child wishes to skate, please make sure he/she brings a sack lunch to eat at school before walking or being driven to the arena. The cost for this activity is \$5. **Please pay in the office by end of day on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.** Skates are available for rent at the arena at the cost of \$2 per child. Pay for skate rental at the rink. All children must have a signed permission form to participate in skating. A form is attached to the back of this Lunchbox Express. They are also available in the office.

We will need parent drivers who are able to help transport children to the arena. Please see the signup sheet outside of the office.

We would also appreciate assistance gathering children from each class from their rooms and moving them in an organized manner to the front of the school. If you can help with your child's class, find Jon Dehlin in the hall outside the office at 11:50 p.m.

- Jon Dehlin, Skating Coordinator

### Waldorf Resale Shoppe

We're excited to try something new at this year's Holiday Faire - expand the school store by adding a resale component for gently used wooden and natural toys. This is a great opportunity to help raise funds for PRWS by donating items your children no longer use and also shop for beautiful, quality toys for less than retail prices. Donations of wood and natural toys in good, resale condition may be dropped off at the school office through December 1st. Thanks so much for your help! Questions? Contact Robin Kottke at 608-638-2609 or [ringleka@hotmail.com](mailto:ringleka@hotmail.com).

- Robin Kottke, Resale Shoppe Coordinator

### 1% Day at the Viroqua Food Co-op

**Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**, is the PRWS 1% day at the Viroqua Food Co-op. 1% of the gross sales that day will be donated to PRWS. Shop at the store you love to benefit the school you love!

- Cynthia Olmstead, Development

### PRWS Coffee Fundraiser

We are partnering with Kickapoo Coffee on an ongoing fundraiser. All proceeds from your purchase of Kickapoo Coffee's Harvest Blend sold at the school will directly benefit the school. We have whole bean (12oz.) bags available in the office for \$12. You can also make a special order to ensure the quantity you desire is available and/or has a specific grind. Orders will be placed on Monday and Wednesday mornings, as needed.

This local delicacy also makes a great gift for the holidays! We thank our Kickapoo Coffee parents for this opportunity: TJ and Denise Semanchin and Caleb and Emma Nicholes. Questions? Contact Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org).

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### Grandparents and Special Friends Day Photos

The photos taken on Grandparents and Special Friends Day are now all on the Parent Portal. You can access the Parent Portal from the PRWS website at [www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org](http://www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org).

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara, Administrative Chair

## Other News

### Medieval Feast Sounds

Viroqua Area School and Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School student's make sweet music toward a successful Medieval Feast at the Viroqua Area High School. Monika Sutherland in collaboration with Mary Weiland (4<sup>th</sup> grade strings) created a delightful mood at the public school's annual event. Many of our previous students either played music or roamed about in costumes entertaining the crowd. A group of our students joined in and played very beautifully under the direction of Ms. Sutherland. We are so proud of this group who put in extra effort to work on and share this music while representing our school with such poise and talent. Thank you to the coordinators of this wonderful event, our teachers and our students.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair



### Winter is Coming!

Hi! My name is Winter. Remember me? I am coming to visit Wisconsin again soon. I know I often overstay my welcome, but I just love it here so much it is hard to leave. Anyway, I need to ask you a favor. I need for you to help get the snow off the sidewalks at your child's school so everyone can travel safely out in my glorious winter chill. Your Facilities team is gearing up and will be calling upon you to do

your part. You will be shoveling by assigned class weeks again this season, starting with: Grade 8 - November 6-13 (Sunday Morning overlap). Grade 7 will follow November 13-20. Remember, we are all in this together. I will bring the snow and cold and winter fun and you get out there and show those soft people in warmer climes how resilient you are.

Warm regards,

*Winter*

P.S. - Do a really good job and I may reward you by not sticking around through March and into April.

### Full Schedule

Grade 8: November 6-13

Grade 7: November 13-20

Grade 6: November 20-27

Grade 5: November 27-December 4

Grade 4: December 4-11

Grade 3: December 11-18

FACILITIES: December 18-January 1

Grade 2: January 1-8

Grade 1: January 8-15

Kindergartens: January 15-22

Grade 8: January 22-29

Grade 7: January 29-February 5

Grade 6: February 5-12

Grade 5: February 12-19

Grade 4: February 19-26

Grade 3: February 26-March 5

Grade 2: March 5-12

Grade 1: March 12-19

Kindergartens: March 19-26

- Jon Dehlin, Facilities Committee

### Garlic for Sale!

Beautiful, organic garlic, grown by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf students, is for sale in the school office. Nice, large cloves are perfect for planting or eating. It is \$12/1 lb. bag. Please write a check or bring exact change. All proceeds benefit the Garden Education program at the school.

- Erica Pfeiffer, Garden Program

## **Girls Volleyball Team**

For 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls interested in learning about volleyball, there will be volleyball after school on Thursdays led by Paula Grenier and Corina Bergan. November 10<sup>th</sup> will likely be the first day. For more info, contact Paula at 606-3500.

- Paula Grenier, Coordinator

## **LUNCHBOX EXPRESS COMMUNITY NEWS POLICY**

The Lunchbox Express Community News section is provided as a service to the school community. Printing of an ad does not imply endorsement by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

How to Place an Ad:

1. Limit your ad to 70 words. We do not edit. We will not print ads over 70 words. If you must have a long ad, make a note & give it to the office staff to place on the bulletin board.
2. Ads will be printed only once.
3. Put your ad in the folder in the LBE's mailbox in the Office marked "Lunchbox Community News" OR e-mail ad to [info@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:info@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) with "Community News" in the subject line.
4. Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30am. There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space restrictions, that the Community section will not be printed. Thank you.



# Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2016

### DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY

Waldorf Education continues to celebrate academic successes. Many Waldorf high school students are named to the National Merit Scholarship Program each year, and we're pleased to be able to share their successes with you:

**Fiona Pelz-Sharpe**, High Mowing School Class of 2017 is a Commended Student.

**Namrata Kasaraneni** and **Grace Willhoite**, Waldorf School of the Peninsula Class of 2017, are Commended Students.

**Ethan Ernesto Velasquez Denson**, Austin Waldorf School Class of 2017, received recognition as a "National Hispanic Scholar."

**Ethan "Tucker" Haddock**, Monadnock Waldorf High School class of 2017, is currently a National Merit Semifinalist and will know in 2017 whether he's made it to Finalist status.

This list is certainly not complete, and we look forward to sharing updates in future months.

Congratulations to these fine young students!

Warmly,

*Stephanie, Melanie, & Beverly*



### TEACHER EDUCATION NETWORK

The Teacher Education Network (TEN) of AWSNA met October 1-4, 2016 in Chicago for a long weekend of fruitful dialogue, laughter, and even a bit of sightseeing. In addition to engaging conversation with area schools on strengthening Waldorf teacher education, the group discussed membership expectations for any Waldorf teacher education institute, agreed upon several steps to improve upon the peer review process for full member institutes, and established a Distance Learning Position Statement for all institutes in the association. The position statement will be distributed to schools shortly.

Members of TEN talk and walk from the school to the shore of Lake Michigan during a meeting break.



After the meetings' conclusion, several TEN members had a few hours of free time before heading back home to California, Massachusetts, Colorado, Ontario,



Washington, and Wisconsin. Several made it to The Bean in Millennium Park and the Russian Tea House for nourishment before the travels home.

## WALDORF IN THE NEWS

Four of **Portland Waldorf School's** middle/high school musicians had the opportunity to play alongside professional musicians with a national tour of **Beatles!** You can read the story [here](#).

**Alabama Waldorf School** is moving to a newly renovated campus on Crestwood Boulevard. Located on four wooded acres close to the Crestwood Shopping Center, adjacent to The Arc of Jefferson County, the new campus features two buildings with administrative offices, grades classrooms, a community hall, and preschool classrooms which open onto ample playgrounds. Future plans for the grounds include sustainable permaculture design of vegetable, flower and forest gardens. The restoration of the property is a notable improvement in the revitalization of the Avondale and Crestwood communities.



## ESSENTIALS IN EDUCATION BLOG

A Case for Deferring Electronic Media in the Classroom: A three-year-old talks to grandma on Skype. A seven-year-old reads a fairy-tale with Dad on a Kindle. A child with spatial-awareness issues plays Tetris. Is this okay? Good, even? Would something else be . . . better?

If you haven't already done so, please visit our new education blog, called "[Essentials in Education](#)." In it we explore topics that matter to educators, researchers, policy experts, and thought leaders - from a Waldorf Education perspective.

We welcome comments and feedback. We also welcome guest posts. Please contact Beverly Amico at [bamico@awsna.org](mailto:bamico@awsna.org) for details.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to **Mercurius USA** and to **TADS** and to **BigSIS**



for supporting AWSNA as members of our partners' circle.

Please join us on social media:



## COMMUNITY WEB RESOURCES

[WALDORFEDUCATION.ORG](http://WALDORFEDUCATION.ORG)

### FORMS

Templates you can use to create your own forms can be found on the "Affiliated School Resources" page of our website.

### STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our newsletter on our website and like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Pinterest.

You can also support us on our website. Thank you for your commitment to Waldorf Education!

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

### BEVERLY AMICO

Executive Director, Advancement  
[BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x106

### STEPHANIE RYNAS

Executive Director, Finance & Operations  
[SRYNAS@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:SRYNAS@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x104

### MELANIE REISER

Executive Director, Membership  
[MREISER@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:MREISER@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x105

## HOLIDAY FAIRE ICE SKATING

WHO: Pleasant Ridge students from grades 1 to 6.

WHAT: Ice Skating fun and child supervision for grades 1-6 at the Viroqua Community Arena while others set up for the Holiday Faire (*children of adults setting up can skate for free*)

WHY: School is released on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at noon

WHEN: Friday, December 2<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

SCHEDULE: 1) Eat lunch at school at 11:30 a.m.  
2) Caravan to arena at noon  
3) Skate and have fun safely until 2:30 p.m.  
3) Be ready for pick-up at 2:45.

There will be NO bus pickup at the school in the afternoon on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Parents, if you would like your child to spend the afternoon at the ice arena, please see below:

### TO SKATE:

- Fill out the form below, one for EACH child
- Return the form and \$5.00 to the office or Jon Dehlin by the end of the school day on November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Send your child to school on December 2<sup>th</sup> with lunch and either ice skates in hand or \$2 for skate rental, which is available at the arena
- Pick up your child at 2:45 p.m. at the arena

Further questions – please call Jon Dehlin at 632-6712

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I give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, grade \_\_\_\_\_ to go skating at the Viroqua Community Arena. I understand this means that my child may ride in a car driven by an adult or may walk to the arena.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my child at the arena no later than 2:45 p.m.

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Parent or guardian's signature

date

Phone Number Where You Can be Reached if Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

I am part of the Holiday Faire setup crew: Y / N