



# BLUE OAK SCHOOL

A WALDORF-INSPIRED PUBLIC CHARTER (K-8)

## Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

April 20, 2021

### **Favorite Moments**

Teacher: You forgot your mask again,

Student: I did?

Teacher: Well there isn't one on your face. Do you have one on you?

Student: Oh, no.

For the last month or so we have been learning about different virtues and the children have been really getting into it.

One day last week, my students randomly sat down on the blacktop in a circle after movement. I decided to take advantage of this situation and sit down with them. Since we had been working with the virtue of gratitude that day, I had each child go around the circle and tell the person on their left what it was about that person that made them grateful. We got all the way around the circle and we were out of time and they said, "No, let us do it again, but go in the opposite direction." So, the next day we did it in both directions. I was so impressed with their kindness towards one another and their knowledge of how to impart goodness to one another. It is in these moments that I absolutely love teaching.

One of my students started referring to me as "My Liege" today during math. As in, "My Liege, I have a question." So I responded with, "Yes, peon, in a moment." Eventually, they asked me what peon meant and was delighted when I gave them the definition.

Student. "Hey, if you weigh 99 pounds and you eat a pound of nachos. Are you 1% Nachos?"

## **State Testing**

State testing started on April 12th. The third and fourth grades have completed testing Sixth grade is testing this week. Thanks to Mr. Combs, Ms. Glusman, the eighth-grade teachers, in fact, all the teachers for the extra work this takes in this unique year.

## **Fairytale Forum**

We hosted a parent night Friday evening March 26th, with David Packer a Waldorf Pedagogical Director and teacher trainer. He presented on the use of fairytales in the lower grades, how they support the child in this early stage of development. He answered parent questions. Positive comments were shared by both parents and staff who attended. Sadly the recording didn't work.

David has agreed to return to meet with the faculty on May 14th for some reflective and rejuvenating work to finish out the year.

## **Mental Health and Wellness**

Butte County Office of Education has a team of mental health professionals working with students and families on addressing these concerns throughout Butte County. Last Friday the team met with all-staff then parents on suicide prevention. The team will meet with upper grades students after state testing is complete.

## **Website**

Watch for our continuing work on the website. The current work is on developing a Counseling and Crisis page.

## **Important Dates Coming Soon**

May Faire: Saturday, May 1st, 11-12

Graduation: Friday, June 4th two ceremonies