



BLUE OAK SCHOOL

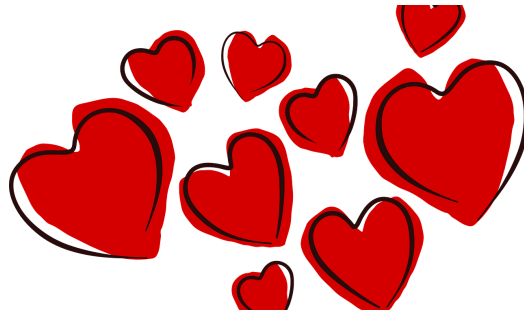
A WALDORF-INSPIRED PUBLIC CHARTER (K-8)

Executive Director's Report

Charter Council

Susan Domenighini

February 2023



Favorite Moments

Last Friday we had our first "buddy" special Friday time with KinderCare. Seeing 4th graders read books to KinderCare students was the absolute cutest thing ever. Then the KinderCare students showed them all their favorite things on the kinder playground. One 4th grader was playing hide-and-go-seek with their buddy. They came up to me and said "Ms. Katie, I have a small problem. I lost my buddy!" Just then out of thin air (actually, from under the bench), out popped their buddy! The whole experience was 🥰

One thing that always puts a smile on my face: every Friday at the end of the day for pick-up, 4th graders put on their backpacks backward, so they have "big jotun bellies." For those that are unfamiliar with the Norse myths, jotuns are giants that run amuck and cause chaos throughout the Norse myths. I love how 4th grade has made jotuns part of our class culture. It feels so right- and it cracks me up every time.



7th-grade visiting Kindergarten

Staffing Report

We have a new aide scheduled to begin with us shortly. Look for changes in the lower grades hallway.

Grants/Funding

After-School Education and Safety Program is the latest grant Blue Oak is applying for. This will be for approximately \$64,000 for after-school upper grades. Improving the upper grades offerings has been on the radar as a need for quite a while.

We have begun the process of applying for the ERC or employee retention tax credit. Experian was recommended by Charter Impact. This is another fund that helps organizations deal with the effects of the COVID closures.

Riley Murray continues to work with us to develop our planned Preschool program and after-school programs for potential implementation next year.

Audit

Blue Oak was able to complete the audit by the end of January. There were no exceptions! The changes to Independent Study and the late notices of requirements made this a particularly challenging year. Thanks to all that made this happen!

Activities

Scholastic Book Fair

The Book Fair is happening now on campus in Room 21 - parents are welcome to shop with their students every day that week after school. Class door decorating, dress-up spirit days, class visits, and a themed coin drive. This Coin Drive, called All for Books, will help raise funds to ensure the Book Fair is equitable for all. Alex will be asking for parent volunteers through ParentSquare for both the Book Fair and the Coin Drive.

Dance This Friday

Seventh grade is sponsoring a dance this Friday in honor of Valentines day.

Girls on the Run

Is up and running.

Supporting Staff

More Plants! A survey of faculty asked what the school could be to better support staff mental health. One item the faculty asked for was the beautification of the building including more plants. We are working with Todd Counseling to review the input and provide other services.

Wellness

Currently, the Wellness Room is fully staffed with 6 Psychology interns and one Social Work intern from Chico State. They have been supporting students with self-regulation both in the wellness room and in the classroom. They have also been critical in covering for yard duty when

there are staff shortages. If you see them on campus please say hello and welcome them to our community. The Wellness room is running low on snacks and herbal tea as many students are using the room to take care of their needs.

Upcoming projects for the Wellness Room:

- A non-perishable food drive to host a food pantry for our families.
- Forest Therapy Walk through the Eco-Therapy Program at Chico State (a student one to follow!).
- Middle School Student Survey for mental health self-assessment

Support for Jen

Jennifer has shared gratitude for the outpouring of support. She has contracted with Om Foods to provide her meals. A spaghetti feed and other fundraisers are being planned.

Task Force

No Report