

## ***News from the Office:***

### School Calendar

**Feb 26** Board Meeting 7pm

**Feb 27** Deadline for Tuition Adjustments

**Mar 3** Grade 7 Parent Eve 7pm

**Mar 5** Health Committee Meeting 7pm

**Mar 12** Finance Committee Meeting 7pm

**Mar 17** Grade 4 Parent Meeting 6:30pm

**Mar 18** Facilities Meeting 7:30pm  
Grade 8 Parent Meeting 6pm

**Mar 19** Executive Meeting 7pm

**Mar 19 & 20** Faculty In-service- no classes

**Parents, a calendar change:** In January, two faculty in-service days were changed to regular school days in order to make up for time lost to snow days the week before. Now the Faculty will make up one of the in-service days on Thursday, March 19. This means that the Faculty In-Service will be on Thursday and Friday, March 19 and 20. There will be no classes on these days, so please mark your calendars. Those who signed up for hot lunch on the 19<sup>th</sup> will be credited. – Diane Mamroe

**Help Wanted** We are looking for someone to be the Cleaning Person for our school. This is a part-time position, evenings and occasional weekend hours. Application forms and job descriptions are available in the school Office. Please apply right away if you are interested. -- Diane Mamroe for the Personnel Committee

**Second deadline for Tuition Adjustment requests is this Friday, 2/27.** To keep parent information anonymous, and to make the adjustment process as fair as possible, we need to have all requests included now. Requests after this date may have to be calculated "in house." Please bring in your adjustment form **and 2007 IRS Form 1040**. – Diane M.

**We are still seeking a used vacuum sweeper** that would like a new home in the Violet Kindergarten. If you have a spare vacuum to donate, please contact Shannon or Diane M.

**Applications for Kindergarten** are being accepted now for the 2009-2010 school year. Please see Jean Westerhoff in the Office if you are considering enrollment for your younger children next year.

**Welcome!** Diane and Gregory Splinter and big brother, Heron, joyfully welcome their baby girl, Mira Eve, born Feb. 18. If you would like to bring a meal to the Splinters, please call Kristina Gullion, 629-5979. Meals during the school week may be brought to school and taken home with Heron (gd 3).

### **FRIDAY ASSEMBLY for 2/27**

**Grade 2 will be sharing a flute/song**

**Grade 3 will be sharing a flute/song**

**Faculty Singers will present a song**

**Raffle News:**

**GOOD NEWS FOR GOOD ENERGY!!**

Posters and Brochures are in the office! Please take what you need to send to folks, or to hand out as information. The drawing is coming soon - April 18th - Please hand in tickets as you sell them, so this critical fundraising cash is available to the school. Coming soon - information on selling tickets in Village Market's lobby. Need ideas for selling? Work with other parents in your class to arrange an event. How about a car wash - free wash with every ticket purchased? Don't forget about the Indoor Farmer's Market - if you are interested in manning the booth and selling your tickets, please contact Missy Hughes - 637-6757.

***Anthroposophy in the Driftless Region:***

**Understanding Children's Drawings** This seminar will be held on April 17-18, 2009 at the Tamarack Waldorf School in Milwaukee. There will be a Friday eve lecture (\$15) and an all day Saturday workshop (\$80 for whole weekend includes snacks on Sat), given by Bente Goldstein, Waldorf Educator and Life Ways Training Instructor. See the flyer on the Bulletin Board for more info if you are interested!

**HOT LUNCH MENU**  
Feb 26-March 4

Thurs-Black Beans & Rice  
W/Nachos

Mon- Pizza

Tues-Burritos

Wed-Soup and Bread

***News from Long Range Planning:***

**THANKS FOR ALL THE BRIGHT IDEAS**

The PRWS Long Range Planning Committee met on February 13 and reviewed ALL 41 *Bright Ideas* submitted by the community & committee for a new business that would support the cost of our school's operation. The committee reviewed each idea based on 10 criteria points most notably: ease of implementation, could it meet target revenue needs, does it fit our mission, is it sustainable for a long period of time and do we have the resources to make the new business happen.

There are now 7 ideas that rated the highest based on the criteria. If you have any input on the below 7 new business ideas or know a good source for the committee person researching the business idea please contact them directly. We will be meeting again on March 13 to review the 7 and select the best 1 or 2 ideas for which we will create a business plan for public input.

- **Annual Athletic Event (Paula Grenier & Stacey Mehr)**
- **Import Business (James Gimurtu)**
- **Teacher Planning Book (Meg Hoversten)**
- **Food Products (Tomato Achar/Organic Soup, etc) (Joel Turino)**
- **Wind Chimes (Mary Christenson)**
- **Self Insurance Coop/Banking/Credit Union (Gregory Splinter & James Gimurtu)**
- **Wind Turbine Brokerage (Jerry McIntire & Pete Daniels)**

If your idea was submitted and does not appear in these 7, please know that it did not reach the needed income level or ease of implementation needed for this new business. Again, thanks for all the *Bright Ideas*, --**PRWS Long Range Planning Committee**

## **Community News**

**Vulcan Week Showcase!** You're invited to the Youth Initiative High School this Thursday, February 26 from 3:00-5:00PM to view the results of this year's Fire Theme Week. Exhibits of jewelry, welding, blacksmithing and stained glass will be displayed. Fresh, hot pizza and sourdough bread will also be for sale! Contact the school if you have questions: 608-637-6445.

### **YELLOWCELLO SUMMER MUSIC CAMP**

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual string camp will be held from Monday, June 22 to Sunday, June 28. Save the date. Brochures will be available soon. For information contact the Sutherlands at 637-3239.

**Soft Martial Arts, Conditioning and Meditation classes for Kids Wednesdays,** 3:15pm - 4:30pm (7-11 year olds) , 4:45pm - 5:30pm (12-17 year olds) Begins 3/4/09, Room 202 Landmark Center. Taught by Monte McPherson, certified Tai Chi instructor. \$25 per month or barter welcome. Call to register 637-7134. Class space is limited

**100% Grass-Fed Lamb- locally raised.** All organic standards followed. Come and visit. Whole lambs, cut, wrapped and frozen, @ \$6.25/# (lambs ave. around 34# packaged). 1/2 lamb @ \$6.45/#. I also have one small lamb as a whole 1/2 @ \$6.00/#. Very juicy and flavorful. Thank You! Roger and Joi. rogerlc@mwt.net

**Farm Summer Camp, East Troy.** June 8-12, June 15-19, July 20-24, July 27-31, All from 9-3, for 6-12 year olds. Hands on, small groups. 262-642-9738, [benteg@centurytel.net](mailto:benteg@centurytel.net). Bente Goldstein, Waldorf Teacher

**Rock Band and Dance Party! Friday, February 20, 7:30 in the Landmark Center Auditorium.** Join Cannon Fodder, a fun rock band from the Pit at Youth Initiative High School, fresh from the "School of Rock" class. The band will be followed by a DJ and

dance party. Only 3 bucks! Questions call Ted at 606-5699.

**The Youth Initiative High School is hosting an information Coffee Klatch on 3 March 2009 from 7-9 pm.** This informal social event will be an opportunity for those families with students entering the 9th grade, or **anyone interested in an alternative educational experience**, to get to know the school. Current faculty, administration, students, parents, and board members will be there to answer any questions one might have about our school.

### **VIOLINS FOR SALE!!**

I have two violins i am looking to sell, one is a full size that's in good condition and is worth around \$275, the other is an 3/4 size violin in a full size case. Call to make an offer or for more info on the makers, condition, pricing etc. of these violins.

Thanks! Summer Willis 634-3640

### **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 Lauren Hunt's mailbox** in the Office marked "Lunchbox Community News" OR e-mail ad to Lori Dehlin at [lorid2@frontiernet.net](mailto:lorid2@frontiernet.net) with **"Community News" in the subject line**.
4. **Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30am.**

There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space constrictions; that the Community section will not be printed.

Thank you!



# inform

May 2009

A Newsletter for Waldorf School Communities  
from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America

**February 2009**

**Two New Effective Practices Modules are now available!** AWSNA's Effective Practices research continues under the expert management of Lynn Kern, Secretary for the AWSNA Board of Trustees. Two new modules will be published in early January: **Mentoring** and **Pedagogy**. Look them up online and let all the members in your school communities know they are available. **Effective Practices** is a valuable resource and we want our constituencies to use them. Effective Practices may be found at [http://www.whywaldorfworks.org/04\\_AWSNA/affiliated.asp](http://www.whywaldorfworks.org/04_AWSNA/affiliated.asp)

**News from Canada – heroic teachers and parents took a stand.** British Columbia's government's mandatory standardized testing system, known as the Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA), recently came under fire from teachers and parents. Vancouver's school board trustees voted to send a letter to parents that includes ministry-approved reasons why a child can be excused from taking the test. In 13 British Columbia elementary schools, less than half the students took the Grade 7 reading part of the test, and in 26 more schools, a quarter of the students opted out of that portion. The fight over the worth of the test has for years simmered among parents, academics, aboriginal leaders, and just about any other group with a stake in how schools can be made to work best for children.

**New Study: Home Computers Affect Grades Negatively** - Waldorf educators are delighted that research is finally catching up with what they have known all along: excessive screen media has a negative impact on growing children. Three researchers from Duke University in Durham, N.C. used data gathered from a survey given to 1 million fifth through eighth graders for their paper: *Scaling the Digital Divide: Home Computer Technology and Student Achievement*. Their study shows that middle school students who have access to home computers and high-speed Internet achieve lower scores in reading and math assessments than their counterparts who do not have a home computer. Students who do have home computers but use them twice a month or less achieved better scores than those who used computers indiscriminately.

**The Council for American Private Education (CAPE)** in Washington, D.C. has been working hard with help from its members, including AWSNA, to influence the U.S. Congress and Senate to urge equity for private school students in the economic stimulus package. If you would like to help and add your vote on equity and inclusion of independent schools you can visit the Legislative Action Center on the CAPE web site at <http://capwiz.com/cape/issues/alert/?alertid=12443346>.

**The National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA)** is the accrediting body which confirms AWSNA's authority for accrediting its schools. Our Association collaborates with 22 state and regional accrediting organizations to award dual accreditation, including CESI, the national independent accrediting body of Canada. Accreditation is a rigorous process of self study and peer review which includes the independent school community beyond our own schools and provides accountability to the world about the quality of our curriculum and academic programs. Accreditation, self-study, and/or peer review is necessary for Waldorf schools to become full members. This year 5 Waldorf schools have been accredited.

**Visit the Waldorf web site [www.whywaldorfworks.org](http://www.whywaldorfworks.org).** Subscribe to the e-news and each month receive stories from our Waldorf school community, of the accomplishments of our alumni, and of developments in the broader educational community. Sign up now!