



Waldorf-Inspired Public Charter School Open to Everyone, Oakland, California

社羣創新學校

Escuela Comunitaria de Educación Creativa
TrườỜng HỌc CỜng ĐỒng Cho Sáng KIỆn HỌc TẬp

March-May 2020 Retrospective

Principal's Letter

"Every education is self-education and as teachers we can only provide the environment for children's self-education. We have to provide the most favorable conditions where, through our agency, children can educate themselves according to their own destinies. This is the attitude that teachers should have toward children, and such an attitude can be developed only through an ever-growing awareness of this fact." -Rudolf Steiner, [The Child's Changing Consciousness](#)



Dear Community School Families,

Thank you for all the love and support you poured into your students this school year making it a successful one despite having to go into virtual learning as of March 13th. Despite adjustments, Classroom Teachers & Staff continued an even greater focus in teaching and making visible our scholars' ability to reach their 'learning-edge.' I am very proud of our TK-8th graders energy and determination in completing their end of year final individual and classroom projects! Our mission, to further develop 'braiding' of Waldorf methods and effective Common-Core Standard-based teaching practices is at the forefront of our work in our students' distance/remote learning experiences.

Although I know March to May has been difficult, our staff has worked hard to provide clarity of purpose as we address the current and future uncertainties around us. During the stay-at-home and now shelter-in-place orders in the Spring 3rd Trimester we moved into distance learning, disseminating work packets, Waldorf Learning Kits, AHC Extended Day Art Kits, along with laptops to families that needed them. Departments and classroom routines and rituals did not stop- we continued to provide Classroom Meetings/Advisory, office hours, counseling, youth leadership groups, and Special Education services.

We have learned a lot from listening to feedback, gleaned from informal chats, small and whole group discussions, and surveys from families and staff this Spring and we will bring this new learning and understanding from the outset into the Fall. Even though the 'new normal' may look like a hybrid of distance learning and modified in person, we will continue to have Waldorf enlivened in classrooms and school-wide to maintain our unique essence that is CSCE- integrated, art-infused, project-based, hands-on learning.

We know that our families may have different experiences in our diverse community, but we are here for you. Please let us know what you need, share how you feel, as we prepare for our CSCE Summer programs. Tell us how we may better support you during this transition. With our school's aim of having a greater emphasis on Waldorf methods to improve social-emotional and academic outcomes, as well as grade-level proficient achievement school-wide, Community School will continue to incorporate the core values of the school: **Take Care of Self, Take Care of Others, and Take Care of Space/s.** Using these as our Guiding Principles, each child will be encouraged and supported in building a growth-mindset by working to his/her highest level academically, socially, and emotionally, because at the Community School- We are about the **Education for the Heart, Head, and Hand.**

We will continue to highlight the important focus that school should be a place of academic and social-emotional excellence and safety. Community School is a unique place where we strive and grow! Let's manifest our school's vision and mission in our present actions. I am so honored to be a part of it! Please know that I welcome your participation, support, and efforts as they are greatly valued and appreciated. We have a very special school- the first Intercultural Public Waldorf School in the country and in Oakland. Help raise up the Community School's Motto: **"Receive the children in reverence, educate them in love, let them go forth in freedom."** Remember together- we got this!

In Power, In Peace, & In Partnership,

Monique F. Brinson

HIGHLIGHTS & CELEBRATIONS:

- ❖ **Wednesday, May 27th:** Kinder and 5th grade participated in In-car Step-Up Ceremonies
- ❖ **Wednesday, May 27th:** 8th grade were sent off to high school with a parade-style Promotion Celebration
- ❖ **Monday, June 1st - Friday, June 26th:** CSCE and CalState TEACH Distance Learning Summer Learning Lab
- ❖ **Friday, June 5th (from 9-11AM and 1-3PM):** summer 'Grab & Go' Grocery distribution
- ❖ We send our best wishes to our team who is moving on to Graduate School and other amazing new and exciting opportunities!

ON THE HORIZON:

- ❖ **Thursday, June 11th 9-10AM; 5-6PM:** Zoom Community Chat with Principal Brinson and Dr. Oberman
- ❖ **Monday, June 15th - END DATE:** Distance Learning Extended School Year (ESY).
- ❖ **Monday, June 15th - Friday, July 10th:** Kinder - 3rd grade Summer Reading opportunity in partnership with Springboard Collective
- ❖ **Friday, June 19th (from 9-11AM and 1-3PM):** LAST summer 'Grab & Go' Grocery distribution
- ❖ **Thursday, June 25th 10-11AM; 4-5PM:** Zoom Community Chat with Principal Brinson and Dr. Oberman

We Take Care of Self



2nd Grade - Mother's Day Handprint Project

Step-Up & Promotion Celebrations





We Take Care of Others....

UMOJA KEEPERS

Community Agreements

This is a NO HATE SPACE:

We **shut-down** any and all forms of: *Racism, Colorism, Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia, Classism and Ableism* because *we genuinely believe that the change we want to see in the world begins in our hearts and minds and it ripples out to our classrooms, homes, and communities.*

RESPECT

- I will show respect by giving each member and the space my **absolute complete attention**
 - No multitasking (texting, video games, movies, etc) during OUR time
- What's shared here, stays here
- Give me my space when I ask you & Respect my bubble
- Don't judge me if I am OR do things different than you
- No put downs
- Be open to un-learn & Grow: Value and respect others' experiences, lifestyles, backgrounds, ideas and perspectives

VOICE

- One mic One Voice
- Kind and respectful language only
- I use a confident voice because my ideas matter

SUPPORT

- Respect my learning and my thinking time
- Each One Teach One
- Ask for consent before you step into my bubble & my business



Umoja Keepers (6th-8th Grade Leadership Group)
Community Agreements adapted for Distant Learning

'Grab & Go' Groceries in partnership with
Alameda Food Bank

... We Take Care of Space(s)



Peace Keepers present their hopes and dreams for a safer neighborhood to District 2's
Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas

