

news



Schools Starts September 6!

NEW THIS FALL:

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

See page 3 for details

Calendar

- 8/27: **Campus Volunteer Work Party**
12 - 4PM at Harbor School
-
- 8/29: Carpe Diem's **Back-to-School Parent Meeting**
7PM at Carpe Diem
(for K-3 parents)
-
- 8/30: Upper Elementary **Back-to-School Parent Meeting**
7PM at Harbor School
(for grades 4 & 5 parents)
-
- 8/31: Middle School **Back-to-School Parent Meeting**
7PM at Harbor School
(for grades 6, 7 & 8 parents)
-
- 9/05: **Drop-In Open House**
12-3PM at Carpe Diem
and Harbor School

PLEASE NOTE: Our annual Back-to-School Potluck Picnic will be held on Friday, Sept. 8, instead of Tuesday. This year's event is a COMMUNITY BUILDING AFTERNOON & AFTER SCHOOL FAMILY SNACK from 3-4PM

9/06: **First Day of School**

9/08: **Community Building Afternoon, 3-4PM** at Harbor School for all K-8 families!

Board of Trustees Strategic Retreat by Mark McGough, Head of School

Einstein warned that we should seek to make things as simple as possible, but not more so. Organizational change, understanding what you once were, and planning for the future are not simple ideas and yet there is evidence to suggest that clearly focused and under-complicated strategic objectives provide for successful and positive forward movement in an organization.

And so it was that at 8:30AM on Saturday, July 29, I joined Harbor School's ten Board Trustees to spend the day reflecting on our school - *where we are, our mission, and where we want to go*. Board President **Lisa Pearson**, and trustees **Erin Schulz** and **Scott Shawver** had met twice with me prior to the retreat to plan for the day and an ambitious agenda had been laid out for those gathered at Sawbones that morning to work through.

We spent some time in the morning reviewing our mission statement - most recently revised and adopted in 2013 - and affirming our commitment to the mission. We reviewed the results from the most recent end-of-year survey to look for trends and expectations and did the same with admissions data from past years. That was followed by a brief look back at the history of the school and time to then look forward. The question we considered was, "**What would you like to see on a timeline for**

the school over the next 10 years?" This was an exercise in "blue sky" planning and allowed us to dream and be inspired about the possibilities that lie before us.

After a short lunch we moved on to the process of distilling the possibilities into three or four major strategic goals for the next three years and wrapped up the day beginning to consider the next steps. These steps include sharing the final language around those goals with the community and opening up a dialogue with the Board about the implementation of the objectives.

The day ended with an opportunity for the Board to thank two outgoing trustees for their service to Harbor School. **Charley Rosenberry**, an alumni parent and long-time supporter of the school, and **Jake Guadnola**, Director of Upper School for Girls at Annie Wright Schools in Tacoma, have both completed their 3-year term of service. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their insights and support and for their commitment of time and energy.

The Strategic Retreat was a great first step in putting a plan together that captures the complexity of change in a simple way - one that the Board and I look forward to sharing with you all in more detail as the school year gets under way in September.



FROM THE BOARD

Understanding the Board: Responsibilities & Recruitment by Lisa Pearson, Board Chair

Happy summer from the Harbor School Board of Trustees! Elsewhere you'll read Mark's account of our strategic retreat. It was an exciting day, and we look forward to sharing more with you about the end of the year survey and the strategic goals we are proposing. We will also be hosting opportunities for faculty, staff, and families to provide input on how we accomplish those goals. In the interim, we wanted to share a bit about the Board: specifically, the roles and responsibilities of an independent school board and how we manage recruitment.



Trustees Jake Guadnola (left) and Charley Rosenberry (center) received a fond farewell for their dedicated service over the past three years.

The Board is responsible (*with advice from the Head of School*) for the strategic direction of the school. This includes ensuring the school is delivering on its mission statement, setting strategic direction in alignment with the mission, ensuring the financial integrity of the school, adopting major policies, and hiring the Head of School. In partnership, the Board and the Head of School tackle things like the budget, minor policies, enrollment projections, marketing, etc., and the Head of School is ultimately responsible for gathering input and making final operational decisions such as admissions, staffing, and curriculum.

Today the Board consists of nine members; by the end of the 2017-2018 school year we'd like to have 12. We welcomed four new board members within the last three months of the school year and then made a conscious decision to hold on additional recruitment until the start of 2018. It ensures that our new board members have the support of existing board members in getting acclimated, as well as allowing us to get into

a better rotation cycle. Ideally there would be a transition of 2 to 4 board members moving on and off the board each year.

Still reading? Sound interesting? Maybe you would be a good fit to be a trustee! When vacancies occur, the Board reviews the mix of current trustees, looks at the strategic direction we are trying to move in, and then identifies the particular skills that would strengthen the Board's capacity. Historically there has been a mix of parents, community members, alumni, and trustees who have a history or current involvement with other independent schools. Candidates are then invited to attend a Board meeting and to meet with the Executive Committee. The final step is a vote by the entire Board to accept the candidate as a new Trustee.

We look forward to providing you more information about the Board and our work throughout the coming year, and we welcome your questions and expressions of interest.

Feel free to contact me at lkn_11@hotmail.com.

Board of Trustees

Lisa Pearson, *President*
Tom Baker
Kevin Crayton
Alice Dorr
John James
Scott Shawver
Erin Schulz
Peter Walker

Mark McGough, *Ex Officio*



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL:
Parent and new board trustee
Alice Dorr volunteering at our
Strawberry Festival booth this
year with a few helpers!

Harbor School Launches New After School Program

For several years, parents have expressed interest in having an after school program to provide childcare for parents who work full-time. Families may also need periodic childcare when running errands or heading off-island for appointments. We heard your requests and are pleased to launch our new **After School Program** with current parent **Shannon Johns** as program coordinator.



If you are interested in utilizing the program, please read through the details below:

PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Monday through Friday, from 3:15PM - 5:45PM
- Program will be held on Harbor School's main campus in the Upper Elementary classroom
- On early dismissal days, childcare will begin at 12:15PM
- After School Program will not be available on holidays or teacher "in-service" days
- For students enrolled at Harbor School or Carpe Diem
- Carpe Diem students participating in the After School Program will be transported by a member of staff to the main campus. All Carpe Diem students will need a booster seat for transport
- A light snack will be provided during After School Program hours (*NOTE: students with food allergies/sensitivities should bring a snack from home*)

TWO OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM

9-Month Plan - \$2,880 for the school year

If you are looking for daily childcare, this is the plan for you. Purchasing the 9-Month Plan ensures your child has a reserved space in our After School Program every day that school is in session (*including early dismissal days*). When you purchase the full plan, you can opt to pay the full amount of \$2,880 or schedule monthly autopayments in the amount of \$320.

20-Hour Punch Card - \$200

If you are in need of periodic childcare or only need occasional care, this is the plan for you. Purchase a 20-Hour Punch Card for \$200 and simply make a reservation 24-hours prior to the day you need childcare. We'll punch your card based on the number of hours your child is in care that day. This option is great for parents who have errands to run or appointments off-island.

To sign up for the 9-Month Plan or purchase a 20-Hour Punch Card, stop by Harbor School's main office or call **(206) 567-5955**. Once school begins in September, you can email your childcare reservations or details to Shannon at afterschool@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.

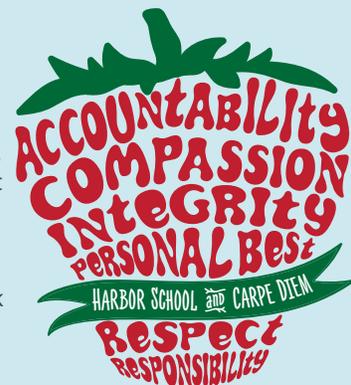


Oakley Reid, Class of 2013, volunteered at the Strawberry Festival helping put on temporary tattoos!!

Volunteer Gratitude

Big thanks to Michael Sennott, Braia Weis, Mariette Spence, Scott Shawver, Erin Schulz, Callie Deegan, Terra Bourse-Archaro, Michelle Cohen, Kevin Furr, Lisa & Christian Pearson, Alice Dorr, Mark McGough, Allison Reid, and Holly Taylor for helping staff our Strawberry Festival booth this year! We'd also like to thank our alumni and current students who took part: Oakley Reid '13, Rebekah Furr, Abigail Furr, Weston Dorr, Morgan and Luka Sennott! It was a fun event, the Cornerstone strawberry tattoos were a huge hit and all in all it was a good weekend. We have a few future prospects and it is always good to have our presence at the festival. -

Niamh Prince, Admissions



Lower left photo: Sophia Ressler, Class of 2001, stopped by to say 'Hi' and pick up a very cool tattoo!



Reading Reminder

Race Equity Book Club recommended a chapter book for kids to read or for parents to read aloud over the summer: **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio. The book is often recommended for ages 8 and up. However, the author recently published a picture book with the same characters and topic which is a great alternative for young kids: **We're All Wonders**. The #1 New York Times Bestseller book portrays one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance. Consider reading both books over the summer; incidentally, the book is being made into a major motion picture and will be released this fall. - *Rebecca Lanphear*



Please join us!

Campus Work Party Sunday, August 27, 12-4PM

Please join us in getting the campus ready for the start of school! We'll be holding a Campus Work Party on **Sunday, August 27, from 12-4PM** at Harbor School to wash windows, scrub desks, make minor repairs and tidy up the classrooms. Refreshments will be provided and the entire family is welcome - *the more the merrier!*

2017-18 School Dates

Many important dates for the next school year, 2017-18, have been set. We wanted to communicate them to you now so you can save these dates:

August 27	Campus Volunteer Work Party, 12-4PM at Harbor School. Please join us!
August 29	Carpe Diem Back-to-School Parent Meeting 7PM at Carpe Diem for Grade K-3 parents
August 30	Upper Elementary Back-to-School Meeting 7PM at Harbor School for Grade 4 & 5 parents
August 31	Middle School Back-to-School Meeting 7PM at Harbor School for Grade 6-8 parents
September 5	Drop-In Open House 12-3PM at Carpe Diem and Harbor School
September 6	First Day of School Full Day, K-8 Grades
October 13	No School/Teacher In-Service Day
November 10	Veterans Day Observed (No School)
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Break (No School)
December 18	Winter Break Begins (No School)
January 2	First Day Back from Winter Break
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
February 2	No School / Teacher In-Service Day
February 19-23	Mid-Winter Break (No School)
March 9	No School / Teacher In-Service Day
March 24	Voyagers Auction
April 9-13	Spring Break (No School)
May 28	Memorial Day (No School)

A full calendar will be emailed to families in late August.

Celestial Reminder from Zoë

August is full of celestial excitement from the Perseid meteor showers to the total solar eclipse! Take time for star gazing and if your child would like to write about their observations we would love to include their stories in an upcoming Cornerstone News issue.

The Perseid meteor show is visible now through August 24 with peak viewing during the overnight hours on August 11 and 12. Expect 40-50 visible meteors per hour. The best time to catch them is when the sky is darkest in the predawn hours - if you can stay up that late!

The total solar eclipse is a once-in-a-lifetime event for North Americans as the sun, the moon and planet Earth align in the country's first total solar eclipse to cross the continental United States from coast to coast on August 21. Some of the best viewing spots are in Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Nebraska, so if you find yourself vacationing in one of these states, be sure to tune your eyes skyward! We've included a few helpful hints from www.SPACE.com for viewing a solar eclipse:

DO NOT look directly at the sun. Unfiltered sunlight will damage your eyes and could cause permanent blindness. Sunglasses will not provide sufficient protection. **ONLY** look at the sun through an approved solar filter. Even safer is to observe indirectly by projecting the sun's image with a pinhole or binoculars.

SAFE SOLAR VIEWING

- "Eclipse" glasses or welder's goggles rated 14 or higher
- Specially designed solar telescopes or solar binoculars
- Telescopes, cameras and binoculars WITH approved solar filters
- Pinhole projector

A card with a small hole punched in it will project an image of the sun

A pair of binoculars will also project a solar image. Leave the lens cap on the unused side.

"Eclipse" glasses

Survey Thank You

Thank you to everyone who completed our annual end-of-year survey. Your responses were thoughtful and greatly appreciated and helped guide our strategic planning session. Feedback on the survey results will be shared as the school year gets underway. - *Mark*

Super Cool Math Event You Won't Want to Miss!

PYTHAGORIZE

SEATTLE



Join the National Museum of Mathematics as we return to Seattle to celebrate another Pythagoras Day — the last until 2024! This year's event will unfold in multiple stages, featuring a series of game-based events and a city-wide puzzle hunt designed to engage individuals, groups, and families alike. Help us show the world that New York isn't the only place where math can be the bedrock of an amazing mathematical celebration. What better place than Seattle to demonstrate the awesome power and sheer coolness of mathematics?



What is Pythagorize Seattle?

On Pythagoras Day 2015 (08/17/15), MoMath brought an all-new MathHappening to the city of Seattle. This collaboration celebrated Seattle's historic Triangle Pub, measuring 8 meters x 15 meters x 17 meters — a Pythagorean triple that just happened to correspond with the date. Hundreds of Seattle-based math lovers flocked to Lake Union Park on 8/17/15 to become part of a large-scale human illustration of the Pythagorean theorem. This first occurrence of Pythagorize Seattle was the largest mathematics demonstration Seattle had ever seen.

In August 2017 (08/15/17), MoMath returns to host another wildly popular public celebration of math, the Pythagorean theorem, and Seattle.



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