

Gathering Waters Board Agenda

March 27, 8:30 a.m.

The mission of Gathering Waters Chartered Public School is to offer students in the Monadnock region an education that enables them to discover their interests and capabilities; explore the surrounding world; and cultivate a lifelong love of learning, a sense of community responsibility and understanding of environmental sustainability. We carry out this mission by providing a rich and engaging curriculum that integrates the arts, meaningful practical work, outdoor education and service to the larger community.

Our vision is an inclusive school culture of compassion and respect where deep interest in others goes hand in hand with individual growth. The educational environment enables students to develop self-confidence, self-knowledge, intellectual flexibility, and the capacity for creative problem solving that supports ethical action in their local and global communities.

In Attendance: Gabrielle, Dan, Janet, Melanie, Jonny, Eliza, Holly, Emily, Elizabeth, Anny

Non voting Member: Luke

Other attendees: Marcy, Theresa, Justin, Fiona, Sara C, Sara N.

Core Principles of Public Waldorf Education -Eliza

1. Image of the Human Being:

Public Waldorf education is founded on a coherent image of the developing human Being.

Each human being is a unique individual who brings specific gifts, creative potential, and intentions to this life. Public Waldorf education addresses multiple aspects of the developing child including the physical, emotional, intellectual, social, cultural, moral, and spiritual. Through this, each child is helped to integrate into a maturing whole, able to determine a unique path through life.

Rudolf Steiner's educational insights are seen as a primary, but not exclusive, source of guidance for an understanding of the image of the human being.

2. Child Development:

An understanding of child development guides all aspects of the educational program, to the greatest extent possible within established legal mandates.

3. Social Change Through Education:

Public Waldorf education exists to serve both the individual and society.

4. Human Relationships:

Public Waldorf Schools foster a culture of healthy relationships.

5. Access and Diversity:

Public Waldorf Schools work to increase diversity and access to all sectors of society.

6. Collaborative Leadership:

School leadership is conducted through shared responsibilities within established legal structures.

7. Schools as Learning Communities:

Public Waldorf schools cultivate a love of lifelong learning and self-knowledge.

In Attendance:

- I. Approve Minutes from 3/6/2021 meeting** - Motion to approve: Emily / Second: Jonny / Vote Unanimous
- II. Process Recommendation** (2 min) - Suggested to start using number system to gauge support / temperature: Five Fingers - Fully support, Three fingers - Moderate support, but want to move forward, One finger - Have more to say on topic
- III. Email** (2 min) - We will start using new GW emails moving forward. Most transparent, allows transfer of data from departing members. Expectations set to check e-mail daily during work week, and respond within 48 business hours. If a response is needed more urgently it will be noted in the subject line.
- IV. Updates** -Please see committee updates in meeting folder (5 min) - Additional notes below if not already in typed updates in folder
 - a. Hiring** - Guidance Counselor & Dev. Coordinator still needed. 2 @ HS teachers & 1 @ Lower loop still needed.
 - b. Enrollment** - Only 7 spaces left to fill! Jane Waterhouse approved proposal (approved by the Board in Feb 13 meeting) to allow the 2 grandchildren of Janet Gordon to have priority enrollment in the kindergarten in recognition of the enormous amount of work that Janet has done for the Charter and that she has no children currently of age to receive such priority).
 - c. Development/Fundraising**-Thank you to Theresa for writing Thank Yous! - Waiting on tax exempt status to finalize fundraising efforts/events. Talking with private donors
 - d. Admin** - Finishing up lease details, state inspections, parent volunteers. S. Lincoln: Buyers want us to create a lease that takes logistical burden away from them. Could be possible delays, but hoping to close within a month
 - e. Marketing**-Thank you to Jonny and Sara for donating the Parent Express space and to Elizabeth, Fiona and Dan for their work creating such a beautiful ad!!!

- f. **Finance Meeting every other week. Budget constantly adapting at this point.**
- g. **Volunteers-** Thank you to Marcy for her 25 heavy cats!! - **To stay in 1st grade classroom, small cats to give students on their birthday. One for teacher also.**

V. Approvals (30 min)

A. Finance-

1. ADA Bathroom on 1st floor South Lincoln (13,400\$) - **TABLED**
2. Proposal to empower the finance committee to approve the following items a-f, and other expenses that come up under 5,000: - Added Admin expenses that may vary from budget - up to \$5K variance - **Motion to approve: Emily / Second: Eliza / Vote Unanimous**
 - a. Out of state tuition
 - b. Stipend for 1st grade readiness assessments-May be done without monetary compensation
 - c. Stipend for IEP preop work
 - d. ADA evaluation
 - e. Sub-lease agreements
 - f. Check protocol for 2nd signer on checks, one for pre-op, one for after 7/1

**** Still waiting for update of startup funds from state. Potential backup plan if funds don't come through in time - HEFA low interest loan (1%)**

**** Teachers need to set up Mercurious accounts by May**

- ### **B. Calendar-**
- Proposal to give Luke final decision making on the school calendar and school hours (to be aligned as closely as possible with that of SAU 29) after consultation with members of faculty and admin committee - **Hours subject to change from SAU 29 to allow for proper scheduling, ect. - Motion to approve: Gabrielle / Second: Janet / Vote Unanimous**

VI. Fundraising-look over lists (Holly-30 min) - Personal asks from board members.

Suggestions from Holly to get over initial discomfort of asking: The ask is the victory. Share your passion. Don't Start as an ask. Who GW will benefit and why. Community

and kids. Use fact sheet on drive. At minimum, give info about school and the ask can come later. Include storytelling of specific child or blending of multiple stories. “ I hope you will join me in giving” - Already have donated time and \$ ourselves.

In person may not be possible, may be over phone.

501c paperwork has been submitted. All current donations should still be retroactively deductible.

Luke available to join the conversation in support of cultivation or ask process.

** Ad for Development Coordinator being finalized

VII. Marketing-Logo (Elizabeth, Fiona, Dan-45 min)

Recommended to have professional (Chrissy) lead process of logo development. Mixed support for using existing logo or creating new one. Time and \$ considerations factor into starting from scratch. Existing logo has been in public eye for some time now. Decided to have Chrissy try to update existing logo and make suggestions on font, colors, etc., as well as format to be usable. Cost will not exceed \$2400 previously approved. None of \$3k marketing budget has been used yet. **Motion to approve above: Gabrielle, second-Janet; All approve.**

Decided to hold off on Shopper ad for now in light of Sentinel article and limited enrollment openings. May decide on in the future.

** Mayor has offered to interview Luke on radio program for free.

Next Meeting: Saturday April 17th (or 24th)

**** Janet informed us of group that has been formed to help with housing for faculty moving here from out of he area.**

Closing Verse-Marcy

Committees:

Enrollment: Sara Norris, Fiona Laurie, Gabrielle Schuerman

Marketing: Elizabeth Hamshaw (Website and Facebook), Fiona Laurie (Constant Contact), Dan Kurz

Outreach: Melanie Everard, Marcy Schepker

Development and Fundraising: Holly Gibson, Sara Ciborski, Marcy Shepker, Gabrielle Schuerman, Elizabeth Hamshaw

Finance: Jonny Norris, Gabrielle Schuerman, Kathy Gross

Facilities: Fiona Laurie, Gabrielle Schuerman, Janet Gordon, Theresa Majoy, Dan Kurz, Marcy Schepker

HR: Anny Hamshaw, Justin Somma

Hiring: Emily Sherwood, Janet Gordon, Gabrielle Schuerman

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Eliza Murphy, Emily Sherwood, Gabrielle...

Kindergarten/EC Working Group: Eliza Murphy, Marcy Schepker, Sara Norris