




The Watershed Gazette

October 2021

Principal Update

We are excited to be rolling into October! The newsletter will be shorter this year as regular communication about curriculum from your child's teacher is the expectation. In school, students and teachers are continuing to solidify routines and focus on social emotional learning. We have been working with teachers to identify the state of mind students are experiencing to understand how to prepare students for learning. Conscious Discipline teaches adults to recognize the different brain states so that students are able to learn. Because we believe all behavior is a form of communication, adults at Watershed are asked to use this model to help determine how to support effective student communication:

	Survival State-Brain Stem (Safety) : "Am I safe?"
	Emotional State-Limbic System (Connection): "Am I loved?"
	Executive State- Prefrontal Lobes (Problem-solving): "What can I learn?"

Important Dates to Remember

10/4 - School Picture Day!
10/8 - Interims distributed for each student
10/15 – no school – MSEA Convention
Early Fall assessments (grades 4 & 5) – Ends 10/22

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Reading Corner

My name is Beth Pyzik and I am the reading specialist here at Watershed Public Charter School. It has been an exciting beginning of the year getting to know our students and staff and I cannot wait to meet all our families. My job encompasses many different roles throughout the school. I work with students, teachers, and staff in many different ways. Your child may come home and say, they worked with Mrs. Pyzik today. Throughout the year, I will visit classrooms and help teachers administer informal assessments, so we are able to best meet the student's needs. I also work with students in small groups, as well as model or co-teach lessons with our teachers. When I am not in the classroom, I may be working with teachers on planning as well as analyzing data and discussing next steps to take. All teachers at Watershed love to collaborate, and we are lucky to have time set aside to collaborate and professionally develop together as a staff throughout the week. My main goal is to help students and teachers develop a love for reading and help every student and teacher progress to their best ability. I look forward to a wonderful school year here at Watershed!

Special Areas

Music

Hello Watershed Families!

Welcome to another great year in music at Watershed! We have begun our amazing journey of creating, responding, performing, and connecting in our fantastic music classroom. We have been learning about one new musical artist per week, as well as learning to dust off and celebrate our singing voices. In our extra special project time, we have been asking "What is a Watershed Ensemble?" and exploring how our school's band can be extra special as we play and write about the natural world, and what matters to us. It has been a great time connecting musically, and we can't wait to play for you soon!

Physical Education

In kindergarten and 1st grade we have started out the school year learning the norms and expectations of face-to-face Physical Education in 2021. Now we have moved on to exploring throwing skills.

In grades 2-5 there has also been a transition period where we have focused on class and school-wide expectations. We are currently developing frisbee skills, building our capacity so we can learn to play Ultimate Frisbee.

Outdoor Education

Grade levels that have me for Outdoor Education have started a deep dive into the variety of flora that calls the Watershed Campus home. We will continue to explore the wide variety of vine species that populate the wooded area surrounding Watershed.

Parent Committee Updates

The Parent Committee would like to thank everyone for the engagement we have seen so far this year. The first meeting we had was very well attended. Our logged number volunteer hours and the number of families that have logged hours are up from this point last year. And many people are actively looking for ways to get involved. The best way to hear about what we are working on and ways to get involved is to sign up for our communications by filling out this form <https://forms.gle/1rakJP5WZJxdhuCZA>. Our next meeting is on Oct 12 at 7pm on Google Meet. <https://meet.google.com/sgv-hqyr-gse>

Watershed Board Updates

Report from the Environmental Action Committee

There will be a garden weeding and mulching day on 10/2/21

There will also be a parent volunteer day on 10/30/21 to mulch the natural play space area (more details to come)

We are going to finally install the Nature Play Space this fall and need skilled volunteers. Can you set posts or do some carpentry? Please let us know!

We want to hear from you!

The board of Watershed Public Charter School values and encourages input and feedback from the public during board meetings. Near the beginning of each board meeting, there will be an established 30-minute time slot dedicated to stakeholder comment and feedback that will be listed as such on the meeting agenda. Prospective speakers are encouraged to sign in on the Stakeholder Comment and Feedback Sign Up sheet prior to the start of the meeting, which will be available near the entrance of the room. When meetings are held virtually, those who wish to speak should email the board prior to the day of the meeting at board@watershedpcs.org. A maximum of ten speakers will be drawn at random and will speak in the order they are selected; speaker time is limited to three (3) minutes each and will be monitored by the Board President. Board members will not respond to public comments within the same board meeting except to ask clarifying questions.

When speaking, speakers are asked to give their full name and be respectful of the board and members of the public when speaking. Speakers should address members of the board and be ready to respond to questions for clarification from the board if asked. The board does not discuss personnel matters in open board meetings. Inappropriate comments or behavior are discouraged. Inappropriate behavior is defined as insults, obscenities or profanity, attacks against any person in their personal capacity, and/or physical violence or threat thereof.