



**ACADEMY OF WHOLE LEARNING**  
The Exceptional School for Exceptional Learners

## The BRIDGE

Thursday December 17, 2015

*We provide a personalized learning path integrating academic, social and life skills for qualifying students with autism spectrum disorder or related learning differences.*

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### Snapshot from The Nest

Academy of Whole Learning invites you to enjoy a spontaneous view of school life.

### Quick Links

[2015-2016 School Calendar](#)

[I CAN! Tutoring Registration](#)

[Home Base Registration](#)

[Co-Curricular Winter](#)

[Registration](#)



### Upcoming Events & Reminders

#### **Student Holiday Celebration**

Thursday, December 3

Dismissal at 11:30

#### **Winter Break; No School**

Monday, December 21 --

Friday, January 1

#### **Winter Social**

Saturday, January 9; 7:00 p.m.

#### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day; No School**

Monday, January 18

#### **Mandatory Parent Meeting**

Thursday, January 21; 6:30 p.m.



Last week, student mentors from Blake School visited AOWL and completed hands-on and engaging projects with students. Lake Itasca students completed a paper sculpture challenge to see how high they could build their tower using only paper strips and tape.

## BULLETIN BOARD

We are Accredited!



Academy of Whole Learning is proud to announce that we have earned Accreditation from the Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA)!

*What does this mean to you?*

It means that your student is receiving a quality education. It

## Stay Connected



## Teacher Blogs



Want to keep up with what your student is learning? Check out our teacher's blogs to see lessons and activities taking place inside the classroom.

[Lake Itasca](#)

[Minnehaha Falls](#)

[St. Croix River](#)

[Cedar Lake](#)

[Lake Nokomis](#)

Accreditation  
&  
Memberships



means that:

- Students are taught by qualified and professional teachers;
- The curriculum is rigorous and integrated with best educational practices;
- Our school complies with State of Minnesota guidelines for health, safety and well-being; and
- Oversight is provided by a concerned governing body.

It means that the quality of our educational program is affirmed by the Minnesota Department of Education and nationally recognized.

It means that we go beyond state requirements and hold ourselves accountable to meeting a higher standard of excellence, and that we are dedicated to ongoing school improvements.

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## Student Holiday Celebration

On Friday, December 18 students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. We will have a science activity by Mad

Science sponsored by the PTO as well as a pizza lunch that we won from Dreambox.



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## Mandatory Parent Meeting



On Thursday, January 21 a mandatory parent meeting will take place in the Owl's Cafe from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. There will be very important topics covered so it is critical that all families attend.

### Items to be covered at the meeting include:

- Minds of All Kinds Benefit Breakfast
- 2016-17 Tuition/Re-Enrollment Process
- Accreditation Report
- New Billing System

### Minnesota Non-Public School Accrediting Association

[www.mnsaa.org](http://www.mnsaa.org)

*We are proud to be an Accredited School through MNSAA.*

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MINNESOTA  
INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL FORUM

### Minnesota Independent School Forum

[www.misf.org](http://www.misf.org)

*We are grateful for MISF and their continued support.*

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### National Association of Special Education Teachers

[www.naset.org](http://www.naset.org)

*We are proud to be a  
2015-2016*

**School of Excellence**

*award recipient.*

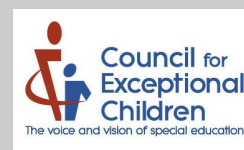
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### Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

<http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org>

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### Council for Exceptional Children

[www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org)

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### Council for Advancement and Support of Education

<http://www.case.org>

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We will be hosting a movie night for students and their siblings this evening so parents can attend the mandatory parent meeting. We will be showing the movie Inside Out. You can make reservations by emailing the [office](#) or telling Karla at the front desk.

## Winter Social



AOWL Parents, Staff, Committee and Board Members, let's celebrate the start of the New Year! John and Amy Higgins will be hosting a party of all of us at their home. Come and enjoy our growing community and help get 2016 off to a fun start. Please bring yourself ready to relax and have fun!

Please kindly RSVP through the [Evite](#) by January 4, 2016.

## New Resource: Focus in Neurodevelopment (FIND) Network

**Focus in Neurodevelopment (FIND) Network: A statewide network for research in neurodevelopment disorders.**

The University of Minnesota has recently launched FIND Network to connect families, researchers and clinicians to current research and resources in and around the Twin Cities. Sign up for the newsletter, or to participate in current research. For more information: <https://cnbd.umn.edu/research/sumajacob-lab/find-network>

## Amazon School Supplies



Academy of Whole Learning now has a published school [supply list on Amazon](#). Throughout the school year teachers are in need of more classroom supplies. This is an easy way to know of teachers needs and requests with a simple click. Don't forget to select Academy of Whole Learning as your preferred Charitable Organization.

Amazon.com will donate a percentage of your purchase to AOWL. Thank you for your support!



**Association of  
Fundraising Professionals**  
[www.aefnet.org](http://www.aefnet.org)



**Minnesota School Counselors  
Association**  
[www.mnschoolcounselors.org](http://www.mnschoolcounselors.org)



**American Counseling  
Association**  
<http://www.counseling.org>



**Nonprofit Financial Group**  
<http://www.nfgmn.org>

**Our job is to serve you! Please let us know how we can help make your AOWL experience an even better one!**

<b>AOWL Leadership</b>	<b>Board of Directors Officers</b>
<a href="#">Lindsey Brandt</a> - Director of Advancement	<a href="#">Janel Dressen</a> - Board Chair
<a href="#">Sarah Fitzgerald</a> - Dean of Students	<a href="#">Dan Martin</a> - Board Vice-Chair
<a href="#">Rosey Glynn</a> - Director of Outreach	<a href="#">Mark Basco</a> - Board Treasurer
<a href="#">Rachel Houle</a> - Lead Teacher	<a href="#">Chris Elliott</a> - Board Secretary
<a href="#">Carly Rasmussen</a> - Business Manager	
<a href="#">Wyayn Rasmussen</a> - Head of School	

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*Academy of Whole Learning values each student's gifts as an individual, regardless of age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or genetic information. Academy of Whole Learning is unable to meet the needs of students with emotional or behavioral issues that may negatively impact the learning environment. This policy applies to all areas of student concerns; including admissions, athletics, educational policies, tuition assistance, and other school-administered programs.*

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