



ACADEMY OF WHOLE LEARNING

The Exceptional School for Exceptional Learners

The BRIDGE

Thursday, November 19, 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 Fall Registration](#)



Upcoming Events & Reminders

Fall Open House

Thursday, November 19

Book Fair

Monday, November 23

Tuesday, November 24

Special Person's Day

Tuesday, November 24

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 25 - 27; No School

Autism & Literacy Event

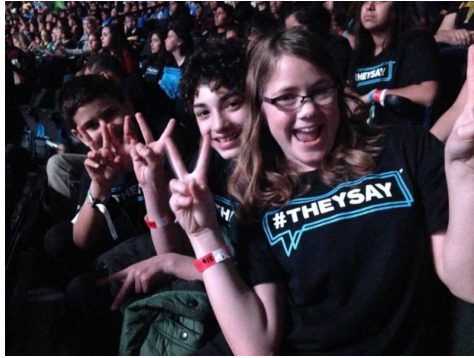
Thursday, December 3

Click [here](#) for more information

Cedar Lake's therapy dog visits on Wednesdays. Her name is Mala and she is a five year old golden retriever. Mala is always excited to see the students and can't wait for all of the love and affection they give her. Students take turns petting, reading stories and talking to Mala.

BULLETIN BOARD

Words from Wyayn



Several Academy of Whole Learning students were invited to attend WE Day on November 3. WE Day is a celebration of youth making a difference in their

local and global communities. Some of the speakers and celebrities included Chelsea Clinton, Marlee Matlin, Henry Winkler, Governor Dayton, and Ciara.

Service learning is an integral part of our year at AOWL; research has shown that service-learning facilitates a student's growth in academics, social maturity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and leadership skills (Michigan Learn and Serve Study, Meyer, Hofschire, and Billing, 2004).

Students who are involved in meaningful Service-Learning do better on tests, show a sense of self-esteem and purpose, connect with the community, and want to be more civically engaged. They also are less likely to be involved in negative behavior and more likely to graduate from high school and college (Michigan Learn and Serve Study, Meyer, Hofschire, Billing, 2004).

For our first service learning project this year, our students collaborated together and decided on a project for Special Person's Day. Instead of making something for their friends and family, they were passionate about giving back to the community; they wanted to "Warm the Hearts of the Homeless."

Students have invited special people in their life to come to school on Tuesday, November 24, to work together to make blankets for the homeless in our community.

AOWL is partnering with In Love Word and Deed (ILWD), a ministry to the homeless of Minnesota. They will be collecting the blankets and distributing them over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Stay Connected



Accreditation & Memberships



Minnesota Non-Public School Accrediting Association

www.mnsaa.org

*We are proud to be an MNSAA
Candidate.*



MINNESOTA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL FORUM

Minnesota Independent School Forum

www.misf.org

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



National Association of Special Education Teachers

www.naset.org

*We are proud to be a
2015-2016*

School of Excellence

--Wyayn Rasmussen, Head of School

Session II - Wintert I Co-Curricular Activities Registration is Now OPEN



Co-curricular Activities

Session II - Winter I Co-
Curricular Activities
Registration is Now OPEN!

Offerings Include:

Art Club (Grades 1-3)
Special Olympics Basketball (Grades 4-12)
Special Olympics Basketball SKILLS (Grades 1-3)
Chess Club (Grades 4-12)
Lego Club (Grades 4-12)
Karate Club (Grades 4-12)

For more information about the Winter I offerings and registration information please visit our [co-curricular activities](#) page on our website.

Special Person's Day

**Special People
Deserve A
Special Day...**



On Tuesday, November 24, grandparents and special friends are invited to join Academy of Whole Learning for our annual Special Person's Day. This event is a wonderful opportunity for guests to experience the excellence of an Academy of Whole Learning education through hands-on classroom activities. Special Person's Day will take place from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Important Details to Remember

- For privacy reasons, guests will not receive an invitation from the school, so please share all essential information with them.
- We will allow up to four guests per student.
- All guests must be over the age of 18.
- If your family would prefer not to participate or if special arrangements need to be made, please let [Sarah Fitzgerald](#) know as soon as possible.

award recipient.



Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
<http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org>



Council for Exceptional Children
www.cec.sped.org



Council for Advancement and Support of Education
<http://www.case.org>



Association of Fundraising Professionals
www.aefnet.org



Minnesota School Counselors Association
www.mnschoolcounselors.org



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

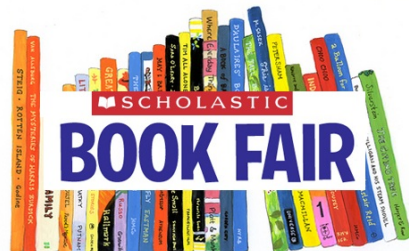


Nonprofit Financial Group
<http://www.nfgmn.org>

Leaving with a Special Person?

If your child plans on leaving with his/her Special Person(s), please let the office know.

Scholastic Book Fair



Come to the AOWL Scholastic Book Fair on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday 24! Online shopping is now available, check it out: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/aowl>. See you at the Book Fair!

Visitors at Lunch

Parents are more than welcome to have lunch with their student(s); however, we ask that you give one business day's notice. It is important that we have time to prepare the other students that there will be a visitor in the lunchroom. If you forgot to give notice and still want to come, you and your student(s) will be able to eat in the sensory room. Please contact [Sarah Fitzgerald](#) if you have any questions.



Crisis Response at AOWL



Student safety is a priority for all team members at Academy of Whole Learning. With this in mind, AOWL has a Crisis Response Team led by the school Counselor to analyze and assess how we as a school should respond to local, national and global crisis events. As children age and develop, their awareness of what is happening around them develops with them. From crisis in another country, to crisis in the home, each person is affected in ways that can be unforeseen. We can only prepare ourselves to the best of our ability. The Crisis

Response Team at Academy of Whole Learning is made up of the following staff; Sarah Fitzgerald, Rosey Glynn, Gina Pogue, Wyayn Rasmussen and Peter Swanson. The team meets biannually to ensure that our methods and programs are in accordance with the St. Louis Park School District, state and federal guidelines, and ethical in nature and responsiveness. We have regular fire, tornado and lockdown drills scheduled and facilitated by the School District and we meet with our St.Louis Park Liaison Officer regularly to stay abreast of who are our contacts in the local precinct. Responding to crisis looks different for every student. Parents know their child best and are the first people to know when their child is affected by a local or global crisis. Parents should feel free to let the school know when their child is affected by crisis and resources for coping are always available.

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!

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

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

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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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