September 2022

Dear Shaw Island Community,

We have started the year off well and happily regained one of our former students to our mix. We are so happy to have her returning to Shaw Island School to join our amazing cast of wonderful students. Now, it is not just me that thinks these kiddos are so special, as the State has reported that all of our students have completed their State mandated testing with superior scores. Their kindness, empathy, curiosity, and creativity are truly matched by their intelligence!

The school year started with all students having an overnight field trip to Canoe Island. This year they were joined by students from Waldron. It was a great opportunity for both “island” schools to get to know each other and experience science and the arts together on Canoe Island.

Right before school started, we were able to build a beautiful platform on which to place our outdoor cabana and where our Music teacher will continue to teach. Unfortunately, the school also experienced some minor vandalism when over a weekend, the shed housing our lawn equipment was rattled, loosening and damaging the door. The shed was not breached. As always, if you see something at our campus that doesn’t look right, please say something!

Our budget is looking good for this school year. With some cost savings at the end of the school year and regaining a student, we are no longer facing any deficit spending for this school year!

We are hoping to have the teacher housing plan by our architects, PBW Architects, by the end of October! Sometime in November we will have a public meeting with the Board of Directors with the community invited to discuss the plan and possible next steps. Please stay tuned for this very important meeting!

Lastly, although COVID protocols have lessened across our state, we are still maintaining all of our COVID cleaning protocols and air circulation standards. Masking is optional, and we absolutely respect staff and student choices in this regard. We are hoping that students and staff will continue to be safe from this virus!

As I am writing this, the air is becoming chillier and the leaves on the trees are starting to turn. Hoping your Fall is filled with cozy fires, hot chocolate, and good friends!

Best Wishes!

Kari McVeigh