

January 22, 2016

Dear Walden Green Community,

As I listen to the news regarding the tragic state of water in Flint and the deplorable state of decay in Detroit Public Schools, I can't help but be grateful for our good fortune. We have a strong learning community and a beautiful learning environment in which to raise your children. Most importantly, we have educators that are compassionate and committed to creating a bright and lasting future for our families and for the world beyond Walden Green. I am hopeful that each of you will support our schools' effort to "give back". Please read on to find out how we will be working to assist the children of Flint, Michigan.

Sincerely,

Mark Neidlinger  
Principal

Let your generosity flow:

One of my favorite tenets of Montessori is the belief and the commitment that we care for the world and all living things. Walden Green has been involved in a number of different service projects over the years. We believe that teaching our students to give freely of their time and talent is an essential element in growing a healthy and compassionate society. Flint Michigan's water tragedy is not only a high, immediate need, but also a learning opportunity for *our* students. Therefore, next week we will conduct a Water Drive for the students at Alpha Montessori school in Flint. Alpha Montessori is a low-income school that shares a building with a women's shelter within the YWCA building located in downtown Flint. They are thrilled to have our support.

Details:

What - Packaged bottles of water in a case or carry container.

When - Wednesday, January 27th through Friday, January 29th during school hours + Saturday, January 30th from noon to 3PM.

Why - Lead within our bodies can lead to: decreased growth, lack of muscle coordination, damage to the nervous system, kidney damage, speech, language and hearing concerns and developmental delays. We can help.

*I am grateful to the Smith family for co-hosting this event and for the families that have already committed to transporting our collection to Flint.*

Old Boy's next Saturday, 3 - 5PM.

Please bring the entire family and join us at Old Boy's for our second annual fundraiser. This was such a great event last year and a great turn-out, too. Old Boy's has been generous enough to let us bring our own guest bartender (Angela Butler!) and to generously kick back 10% of their proceeds of all food and beverage to Walden Green. Bring the kids, the grandparents and the neighbors as well! Be sure to wear your Walden Green wear to help us promote our fine, fine school.

Welcome Baby Kienke:

Congratulations to Jason and Emily, our teacher in 2/3rd grade. Henrik Douglas Kienke was born yesterday morning and the new family is resting comfortably, getting to know one another.



Upcoming Dates:

Jan 27 - 30 - Water Drive for Flint

Jan 30 - 3 to 5PM, Old Boy's, please join us

Feb 10 - Count Day

Feb 12 - Half-day, dismissal at 11:30AM

Feb 15 - No School, mid-winter break

Enjoy the weekend.