



SpringWater Weekly

August 12, 2019

I am sure this update will find many of you savoring the fleeting moments of summer. I have been getting out on my bike as much as possible. There have also been plenty of quieter moments reading. I am loving “The Overstory” by Richard Powers. It is a collection of stories that weave together to reveal the ways our lives are intertwined with the natural world, trees in particular. It is getting me jazzed to work with teachers and each of you in sharing the amazing mysteries of the world we live in.

Last week, we spent time with teacher teams planning our Friday Field studies for this year. We came up with some strategies to help students develop strong skills of observation and inquiry. We are going to have students purchase field notebooks to be used during the year to record their observations and develop strong questions. We will be building on the ideas of science, stewardship and sustainability in our exploration of the natural world.

We also met as triads (K-2, 3-4, and 6-8) to do some scheduling and unit planning as teams and individually. It is so encouraging to see the deep commitment our teachers have to students and the important work of learning. As teams we will be meeting regularly to determine the key learning characteristics at each grade level. Additionally we will be looking at examples of student work to determine next steps in ensuring all students grow as learners and members of the school community.

Important dates

- Mon. 8/19 The office reopens.
- Tues. 8/20 Springwater Book Club final meeting 7:00 @ Wild Hare Saloon
- Wed. 8/21 School board visioning meeting Location and time TBD
- Thurs. 8/29 Meet and Greet. Come in and drop off your materials and supplies and meet your teacher(s) for this school year. 2:00-4:00
- Sun. 9/1 School work party. Let’s polish up the school before all the kids show up. 8:00
- Tues. 9/3 First Day of school.
- Thur. 9/19 Curriculum night celebration. Come and learn about the great things happening at Springwater this year. Bring a picnic dinner and hang out for some live music. We are hoping to have food carts as well. 5:00-6:00 Curriculum 6:00-7:30 Picnic

Bike Maintenance

As you know, we have 30 Specialized mountain bikes that we use with the upper grade students to get regular exercise on campus. After a year of riding, they need tuning up. We are looking for 2-3 people with experience working on bikes. We will need to adjust derailleurs and

brakes, check and tighten nuts and bolts, lube chains, pump tires etc. Please let me know if you can help and we will choose a date for a small work party. greg@springwaterschool.com

Old School PE Night at Schuebel School in Beavercreek--moved to Sept. 14th

Happy Hours/Socialize 3:30-5:30 Games 5:30-7:30 Dinner 7:30

\$50 per person, all proceeds go to Springwater School

Games might include Dodgeball, Tug-O-War, Bump, Agility course, and much more! All the fun games we played in elementary school PE. Includes T'shirt, drinks, full BBQ dinner and tons of fun! Start Stretching!

Contact Carolyn McGill c.mcgilltrees@gmail.com

Projects at Springwater

We had a great turnout for this weekend's work party. We got some classrooms fixed up, playground equipment repaired, the fence straightened, tons of vicious weeds removed and things straightened up. Thank you so much for the hard work done by the team.

The crew is hard at work on the gym/commons roof repairs. It sounds like if things go smoothly, it should be done well before students show up for the first day.

Finally, the safety and facilities team identified areas of rot and significant weathering on the poles that make the teepee structure. To ensure the safety of students this year, we had some volunteers carefully remove the posts. Several were rotten to the point of breaking, others were weathered but still structurally sound. The circle gathering spot will still remain. We will figure out a good use for the posts, (large Lincoln Logs?). The teepee was an important cultural element at Springwater and will be missed.

Technology Happenings

Webpage updates will be coming soon. Thanks for being patient, there are a lot of new systems to learn.