



ASSOCIATION OF WALDORF  
SCHOOLS OF NORTH AMERICA™



FOR PUBLIC WALDORF EDUCATION

March 22, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share news of increasing collaboration between the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education<sup>1</sup> (the Alliance) and the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America<sup>2</sup> (AWSNA). Together we are forging a new relationship based on our common foundation and perspective on what is best for children. Today, a license for the Alliance use of the term Public Waldorf was signed, as was a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that affirms and articulates some of the many ways the two organizations and our respective members can collaborate.

The license empowers the Alliance to use the mark “Public Waldorf<sup>SM</sup>” with acknowledgement that it is a service mark owned by the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America and used pursuant to a license. Some of the details of the agreements include:

- 1) Describing Public Waldorf Education in a document entitled Exhibit A, which was mutually agreed upon by AWSNA and the Alliance. Exhibit A is based upon the Core Principles articulated by the Pedagogical Council Section of North America<sup>3</sup>. Exhibit A will be available soon on the Alliance website, and will be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it represents the continuing development of Public Waldorf Education.
- 2) Authorizing use of Public Waldorf by the Alliance. Alliance member schools may indicate they are members of the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education and they may refer individuals to the Alliance website and materials for explanations of Public Waldorf. While the other service mark guidelines still apply to Alliance members, the Memorandum of Understanding addresses a timeline to permit sublicensing by the Alliance to Alliance member schools.
- 3) The term of the license is “in perpetuity”, which means that it remains valid as long as the conditions of the license are upheld, unless there is a mutually agreed upon decision to end it.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) (see attachment) has three main categories that highlight how the two organizations seek to work together. These include strengthening the integrity of anthroposophically inspired education, sharing resources, and cultivating collegial relationships. There are specific agreements outlined that are important to various entities, so we thoughtfully request that the MoU be read carefully by all. AWSNA and the Alliance agree that periodic review of this collaboration will be beneficial, and help our relationship thrive.

Waldorf educators, whether they work in independent or in public schools, hold Rudolf Steiner's goal for education to be eloquently expressed in this quote: *"Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and meaning to their lives."*

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<sup>1</sup> Membership consists of U.S. public charter and district schools

<sup>2</sup> Membership consists of U.S., Canadian, and Mexican independent schools

<sup>3</sup> Both AWSNA and the Alliance embrace these Core Principles, which provide a lens for each organization to express their ideal practices

In all of Waldorf Education lives the hope of providing new ideas for cultural and educational renewal in our communities. It is with tremendous excitement and hope that we look towards a future of working collaboratively in service to the children of North America.

Respectfully and with gratitude,

AWSNA Executive Team

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