

FRIDAY MUSINGS

1/20/2017

ADMISSIONS AND TUITION NEWS

On Wednesday, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.8% tuition increase for the 2017-2018 School Year. This increase is directly tied to cost of living, and helping elevate our teacher salaries up to a competitive level. Currently, in the Northwest, our teachers rank in the bottom 25% for pay. We have an amazing staff, and I'd like them to stay with us. The Board of Trustees will be sending out a formal notice soon.

- If you will be applying for Financial Aid, it is best to get started on the paperwork now. [Go to this site to begin](#)
- Using SMART TUITION will be the only way to pay tuition in the future. Learn about our new Tuition Management system that we will begin using this Spring: [Smart Tuition](#)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Six Trustees, Head of School Jeff Kubiak, and parent guest Curt Williams attended this month's Board of Trustees meeting on January 18, 2017. Two trustees shared details of their NWAIS professional development training. In old business, the Board unanimously passed a proposed property swap, boundary adjustment, and easement with our neighbor to the east. In new business, the Board set tuition for school year 2017-2018. Trustee recruitment, facilities, a review of our accounting practices and the Annual Work Plan were additional topics of discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM. The next meeting will be held on February 15, 2017 at 6:00 PM. All community members are welcome to attend.

PIZZA FRIDAY

It is time once again to sign your student up for **Pizza Friday!** Due to the three lost pizza days from the snow, we will start the second semester Pizza Friday three weeks late. The cost to sign up for the second semester will be reduced from \$75 to **\$62**. Checks may be made out to The Gardner School.

The second-semester dates are:

February **24**

March **3, 10, 17, 24**

April **14, 21, 28**

May **5, 12, 19, 26**

June **2, 9**

Thank you!

AUCTION NEWS

The Auction countdown has begun: 6 weeks until we enter the Enchanted Garden!

The Auction's success depends on OUR participation – here are a few ways you can help:

- Attend the next Auction Team Meeting: Wednesday at 8:45 in the Farmhouse
- Volunteer to help. Can't attend the auction meeting but still interested in diving into a project, have some time to do a task or two, want to help set-up on event day? We have tasks big and small that you can help with. Please contact Sarah LePage, Auction Chair, at gardnerschoolauction@gmail.com to sign up.
- Donate or Procure items to be auctioned at the event. Here are a few donation/procurement ideas:

Airlines - Frequent flyer miles to be paired with live auction items

Hotels - Are you a rewards member of a large hotel chain? You can gift/donate points towards a stay for the package

Small Solid Wood Furniture – Each class makes a beautiful one-of-a-kind art project for the auction. Jane is looking for small solid wood furniture for these projects

New Wheelbarrow or Garden Cart – To complete our 'Enchanted Garden' themed basket

Experiences – Unique experiences make for some of the most successful auction items

Auction item donation forms can be found in the lobby, on the [gardnerauction.org](http://www.gardnerauction.org) website, or directly at:

<http://www.gardnerauction.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Item-Donation-Form-2017.pdf>

ALUMNI NIGHT 2017

Ever wonder where Gardner students go when they leave us? This evening is for current, past and prospective families who would like to hear from alumni students as they share their experiences with the transition to high school and beyond. Please share this event with any Gardner families of the past, present or future you may know! We will gather in the Great Room next Thursday, January 26 at 6:30pm.

JEFF'S CORNER

- **GardneReach:** If you can participate in the filling of blessing bags on Wednesday, January 25, beginning at 12:45pm, we'd be forever grateful! Help us, help those without and join us in our partnership with A Dog's Best Friend to help Vancouver's own SHARE house.
- **LAST CALL FOR CHAIR PROPOSALS!** Please submit all chair proposals by January 27. We still have chairs to paint if you are interested. Contact Ellen Rogers at 360.921.4235.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Week

22 - *Open House for prospective families, 1-4pm*

25 - *Auction Meeting, 8:45am in the Farmhouse; GardneReach Blessing Bags w/A Dog's Best Friend, 12:45pm (Great Room)*

26 - *Alumni Night, 6:30-7:30pm.*

JANUARY

30 - *Progress Reports Released*

31- *2017/2018 enrollment packets mailed home*

FEBRUARY

1 - *PTO Meeting, 8:45 am*