



December 21, 2018

Dear Parents,

After a thorough review of many factors, the Board of Trustees has decided NOT to increase tuition rates for the upcoming year. Fees will also remain at their current levels with the sole exception of the supply fee for Kindergarten that will increase by \$85 to more accurately reflect the cost of food and materials in Kindergarten.

We began this school year with better financial stability than we have had for several years. Major contributing factors include the success of last year's raffle and the decision to combine grades. Both of these have allowed us to maintain the current tuition rate.

Our students are flourishing, socially and academically, in their combined classrooms. Our dedicated teachers have wholeheartedly taken up and met the challenge of teaching combined classes, and the students are benefiting from the healthy class sizes with enhanced diversity in temperaments, skills, and social opportunities.

We are strengthening our school through the NYSAIS and AWSNA accreditation process which continues to provide the opportunity to look objectively at everything we do, to paint an accurate picture of our school that reflects who we are, and to focus as a community on our vision of what our future could and should be.

We thank Mike and Jane Ried, longtime members of the AWS Community, for their gift of \$30,000 to be used to increase enrollment and grow the school. To this end, we have increased our marketing budget and launched our new website.

Join parents, faculty, staff, trustees, and AWS friends in a focused effort to enhance and grow enrollment in all its forms at AWS. Our "Aurora Waldorf School Envision 2020" effort will start with an interactive session at 9:30 am, Saturday, January 12th that will include small group activities and an alumni panel. Free childcare will be provided during the morning and a free family lunch will follow.

Please note the advanced enrollment timeline as detailed in the materials included with this letter. The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees worked hard to set tuition even earlier than last year. This allows us to have an enrollment timeline that is more in-line with the practices of other independent schools. Timely enrollment allows for thoughtful curricular, financial, and strategic planning for the upcoming school year.

We thank you for participating in our efforts to consciously create a sustainable learning environment and grow our beloved school!

In Gratitude,

Handwritten signature of Johannes Aubrecht in black ink.

Johannes Aubrecht
Board of Trustees, President

Handwritten signature of Jim Anderson in black ink.

Jim Anderson
Board of Trustees, Treasurer

Handwritten signature of Anna Harp in black ink.

Anna Harp
Administrator