



Issue 42

NOVEMBER 2021



From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

We have enjoyed a beautiful autumn, and we know the shorter days and colder weather are on their way. It is always a joy to watch the children celebrate newly fallen snow and crisp winds from within the warmth and shelter of their winter woolens. Dressing for the weather with layers, mittens, hats and scarves keeps everyone comfortable.

Even though our traditions continue to shift this year, we can still celebrate bringing light into this season of darkness. Our hope for everyone is that our inner light is carried forth through the winter ahead, and shines outward into the world through our deeds. We wish for you a renewed connection and the enjoyment of a much-deserved rest during our November break.

With gratitude and blessings,

The WISE Admin Team 

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton (WISE)

 Phone:
780.466.3312

 Address:
7211 96A Ave Edmonton, AB T6B 1B5

 Website:
www.thewise.ca

 Email:
(K.C.) registrar@thewise.ca
(Claire) info@thewise.ca
(Melina) principal@thewise.ca
(Keely) administrator@thewise.ca
(Matt) volunteer@thewise.ca

 WISE Facebook Page:
[Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton Facebook Parent Group](#)
[The WISE Parent Connection](#)

The Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton respectfully acknowledges that we are located in Amiskwaciwâskahikan, or so-called Edmonton, on Treaty 6 territory. The land that the Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton sits on was once Métis scrip land. Scrip was given to Métis people in exchange for their land rights. The land of Treaty 6 territory was once a gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples, including the Cree, Blackfoot, Metis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/ Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant communities. Our faculty, staff, board, and school community commit to working toward reconciliation and decolonization.

Important Dates:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Nov 8 - 12 Fall Break, no programming | Dec 2 Online Talk: Kim John Payne |
| Nov 14 Bulk Order Closes | Dec 7 Last Day of Daisies |
| Nov 17 WESE AGM (online) | Dec 10 Last day of Nursery before Winter Break |
| Nov 19 Bulk Order pickup | Dec 17 Noon Dismissal (Grades), no programming for Kinder |
| Nov 27 Last Day of Sunflowers | Dec 20-Jan 3 WISE Winter Break, no programming |
| Nov 29 Last Day of Bluebells and Rosebuds | |

Bulk Order

November Bulk Order (No Bulk Order in December)

The November Bulk Order is open now and closes November 14th at 10 pm (for pickup November 19th).

This is our last bulk order before the Holidays! Plan ahead: get your baking supplies, hot chocolate, spices, and anything else you may need, and support our lovely school at the same time!



<https://foodclub.org/wise/login>

Thank You

Early Childhood Gazebo

A big thank you to the volunteers who came out to build our wonderful new gazebo for our younger community members. A special thank you to Benji for providing food for the team. 🍃





Pumpkin Walk

The Fairs Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who helped make this year's Pumpkin Walk happen. Although it was not traditional, it still had the same spirit. Thank you to those who carved pumpkins, to our volunteers who proved that there is no bad weather with the right clothing, to those who patiently waited in our lineups, and to our fantastic Gnome. The pumpkins are now feeding some lovely animals at Good Note Community Farm. 🍂



(Photo credit: Yvonne Trethart)



(Photo credit: Joi Valencia)



(Photo credit: Sydney Lee)



WESE AGM

Please join us virtually on Wednesday, November 17th at 7:00pm. This important event will include the presentation of our financial statements and comments from our auditor, our annual Committee Reports, and voting on the new slate of board members.

All WESE members in good standing are invited to register [here](#). 🍀



Parent Education Opportunity

HOW TO HAVE DEVICES NOT BE DIVISIVE FOR OUR FAMILY AND CLASSROOM:
Virtual Talk with [Kim John Payne](#)

A Joint Event with the Calgary Waldorf School

Thursday, December 2nd at 7:00pm
CWS & WISE Parent Community \$12 General Public \$15 plus fees; tickets available [here](#).

Not Anti-Screen, rather Pro-Connection to Nature and People

- How to maintain loving limits, warm, firm and calm discipline and strong family connections in a world where increasingly “screens are supreme”.
- How to build focus, grit and good judgment so that our kids do not become overwhelmed with media-driven images but can shape their own self-esteem, hopes and dreams.
- How to encourage respect when negative images of adults pervade pop culture.
- Fitting in with friends. “Won’t my kids be disadvantaged if I limit screen media?”
- Aloneness vs. Loneliness. Helping kids know the difference.
- The alluring world of no boundaries that screen use develops and how this makes discipline and guidance difficult.
- Virtuous VS. Virtual. Building real and enduring relationships with people who will “be there” for you when times get tough. 🍀





Light the Giving Path!

Giving Tuesday is a global movement for giving and volunteering, taking place each year after the consumerism of 'Black Friday'.

This year, the WISE Build Our Castle campaign invites you, friends and family to join us in Lighting the Giving Path.

Each person/family who becomes a new monthly donor will receive a beautiful handmade ice-lantern to express our gratitude for your support.

The campaign will begin on the 11th of November (Martinmas) when we celebrate St. Martin offering half his cloak to a beggar. (A more contemporary take could be provided by Julia Donaldson's fable 'The Smartest Giant in Town'!)

We hope each one of you will answer the giving call this November; donations can be made [here](#).

Thank you!

The Elevate WISE Committee. 🍀



WISE Student, Staff and Parent Survey results, May 2021

Each year the WISE engages in annual surveys to better understand the perspectives of the students, staff and parents across the grades, early childhood programs and homeschooling. We invite input across various measures to assess if we are meeting the whole community's needs, identify successes and in what areas we need to provide additional resources and support. We use the data collected to inform our priorities in the annual creation of our Alberta Education Three Year Plan (3YEP), Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) Self Study, and the Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America (WECAN) Three Year Plan.

Overall, the survey results from both of our anonymous internal year-end surveys and the Pillar results survey as reported to and by Alberta Education demonstrate that the WISE continues to set a high standard for education within our community and that our students, staff and families are very satisfied with the education being provided.

The WISE administration, the WISE teaching faculty and staff, and the WESE board will continue to dedicate themselves to the growth and development of our school community in the priority areas of Student Learning, Leadership, and Community Engagement. We sincerely appreciate your comments and feedback and continue to respond to the needs of our students and families. 🌱

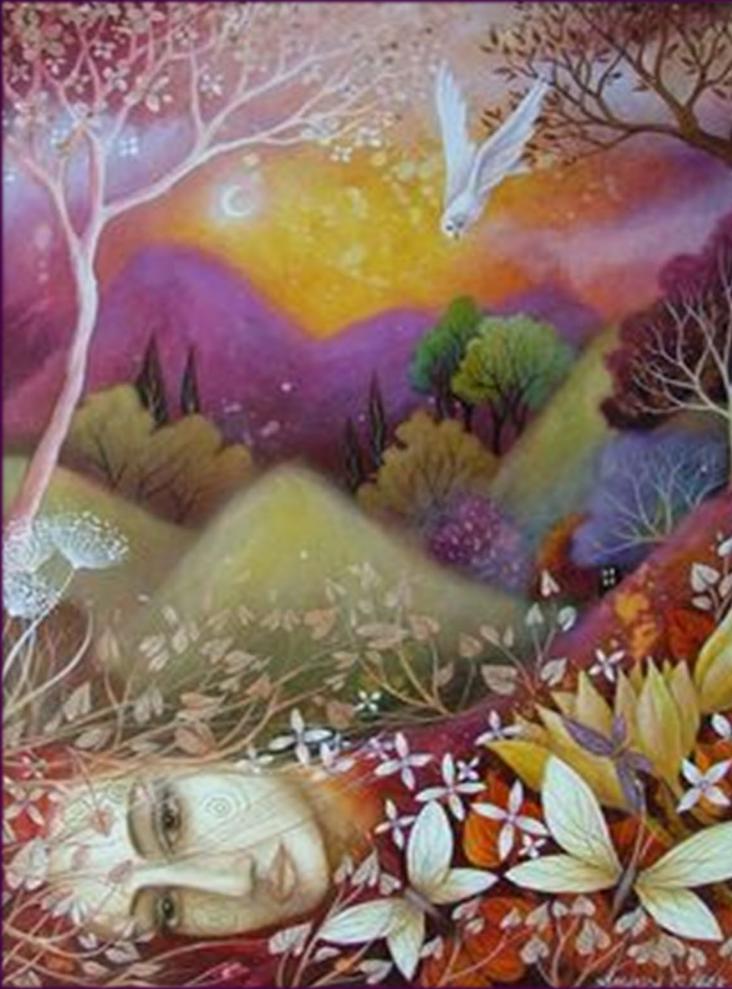
May 2021 Accountability Pillar: Overall Summary

Assurance Domain	Measure	Waldorf Independent School Edm			Alberta		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average
Student Growth and Achievement	Student Learning Engagement	89.4	n/a	n/a	85.6	n/a	n/a
	Citizenship	94.2	93.8	90.8	83.2	83.3	83.0
	3-year High School Completion	n/a	n/a	n/a	83.4	80.3	79.6
	5-year High School Completion	n/a	n/a	n/a	86.2	85.3	84.8
	PAT: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	86.5	n/a	n/a	73.7
	PAT: Excellence	n/a	n/a	30.3	n/a	n/a	20.3
	Diploma: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	83.6
	Diploma: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.1
Teaching & Leading	Education Quality	95.7	96.5	95.4	89.6	90.3	90.2
Learning Supports	Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments (WCRSLE)	95.4	n/a	n/a	87.8	n/a	n/a
	Access to Supports and Services	92.9	n/a	n/a	82.6	n/a	n/a
Governance	Parental Involvement	100.0	96.6	97.5	79.5	81.8	81.4

The chart is a snapshot of the Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton (Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton) and the Provincial Pillar Survey results. Full results will be posted on thewise.ca website at the end of November 2021.

Notes:

1. Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents/students is fewer than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (*).
2. The 2020/21 administration of the AEA survey was a pilot. The Citizenship measure was adjusted to reflect the introduction of the new AEA survey measures. In addition, participation in the survey was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Evaluations have not been calculated as 2020/21 survey results are not comparable with other years.
3. Participation in the 2019/20 Diploma Exams was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the absence of Diploma Exams, achievement level of diploma courses were determined solely by school-awarded marks. Caution should be used when interpreting high school completion rate results over time.
4. The "N/A" placeholder for the "Current Result" for PAT and Diploma Exam measures are included until results can be updated in the Fall.
5. Aggregated PAT results are based upon a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence). The weights are the number of students enrolled in each course. Courses included: English Language Arts (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Français (6e et 9e année), French Language Arts (6e et 9e année), Mathematics (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Science (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Social Studies (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE).
6. Participation in the Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations was impacted by the fires in 2016 and 2019, as well as by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Caution should be used when interpreting trends over time.
7. Aggregated Diploma results are a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence) on Diploma Examinations. The weights are the number of students writing the Diploma Examination for each course. Courses included: English Language Arts 30-1, English Language Arts 30-2, French Language Arts 30-1, Français 30-1, Mathematics 30-1, Mathematics 30-2, Chemistry 30, Physics 30, Biology 30, Science 30, Social Studies 30-1, Social Studies 30-2.



(Artist: Amanda Clark)

Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

 **Phone:** 780.466.3312

 **Address:**
7211 96A Ave Edmonton
AB, T6B 1B5

 **Website:** www.wese.ca

 **Email:**
president@wese.ca
parentpartnership@wese.ca

 **WESE Facebook Group:**
Waldorf Education
Society of Edmonton



Waldorf Education Society of
Edmonton

**We encourage your
comments, suggestions,
and submissions to
newsletter@thewise.ca.**

**The deadline is the
fifteenth of the month.
Anything after the
deadline will be
considered for the
following month. All
submissions are subject
to editing and approval.**

