



Summer 2023

Dear Friends of Great Plains Yearly Meeting,

Thank you so much for your continued support of our mission to educate young people. Although we are a small school, we are mighty! Our children are vibrant and embrace learning on a daily basis. Our staff is some of the best educators I have ever worked with and amaze me on a weekly basis with what they do and the ideas of what they want to tackle and do for our students. Wichita Friends School is a wonderful place to be, and it is easy to see the face of God in each and every person affiliated with our school culture. I feel beyond blessed to be at Wichita Friends School and grateful to God for opening this door for me to lead a wonderful educational facility.

Here are a few highlights from our year 2022-2023:

- Our baking/cooking classes really took off and the children love this weekly class.
- Our gardens the children planted, watered, and harvested provided many snacks of cucumbers and tomatoes.
- Keyboarding was introduced to our elementary students.
- Staff finished our first book on Conscious Discipline with full implementation as a part of our Social-Emotional Learning (SEL).
- Delighted in two separate fundraisers for the school.
- Equipped every room with our Feeling Buddies from Conscious Discipline and all the books.
- Full immersion in experiential learning through our monthly field trips.
- Enjoyed the planted flowers all around the outside of the multi-purpose room.
- Celebrated the awe of children during Wednesday morning worship in their ability to share out of the silence and express their thoughts about life and the world not to mention recognizing integrity in others.
- Applied stewardship each day in taking care of our grounds and outdoor space and cleaning of the rooms at the end of each day.
- Enjoyed a Read Night in the fall with games and activities.
- Celebrated the take home games learned at Math Night in the spring to help with retention over the summer.

- Experienced an exciting all day Field Day of movement activities and fun.
- Acquired a few more grants for improvements to the facility. Our grant awards are helping us keep our tuition affordable to most families.

Having spent almost two years at WFS, I can honestly say my life has been changed for the better. The people I work with and the children are extra special. I consider myself blessed to be at WFS. It is clear God is present at this school and leading our efforts to educate these young children. It is very refreshing to make a difference in the life of a child.

Our Mission Statement is: *Wichita Friends School seeks to provide a high-quality academic experience within a supportive learning environment that reflects the Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship.*

Thank you for your love and care of our school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shelly Hoffman
Head of School