



# Watershed High School

Community · Creativity · Service

## From the Corner Office . . .

Welcome to this new school year at Watershed! We are excited to have your student with us and are looking forward to a rewarding and fulfilling school year. As many of you know, I assumed the position of Executive Director in April 2011. Since that time I have worked with the board members and Destiny Sparks, Director of Education, to put in place a structure that is both sound and exciting for our students.

When I accepted this leadership position at WHS, our future was in serious doubt. We had cash flow problems which led to difficulties in meeting our financial obligations. We were unsure if we would be able to secure a sponsor for the upcoming year, and we were involved in litigation. Over the past few months, our team has been able to develop a sound financial plan that has allowed us to move forward. This plan was presented to our vendors, and each confirmed its viability and agreed to work with us in this recovery process. However, we are still involved in litigation with a finance company, Charter School Capital (CSC). Even though our debt

obligation to CSC had been paid, in July 2011, they took \$120,000 in funds from our bank account leaving us extremely short in our cash flow. We are working diligently with our legal team and are confident that our monies will be returned shortly. CSC has no right to these funds; however, they continue to hold the funds in their account. This funding is provided by Minnesota taxpayers and dedicated to the pursuit of educational services for our students.

At this time, our efforts to gain assistance from our educational legislative leaders' offices, the State of Minnesota, and our U.S. Senator have not worked. On behalf of Watershed, I would ask you to call State Senator Gen Olsen's office at 651.296.1282 and State Representative Pat Garofalo's office at 651.296.1069 to voice your concern over this issue.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 612.871.4363.

Paul M. Kinsley  
Executive Director

## Upcoming Events



### Thursday, October 13

#### Field Trip - Mythology class

Helping Nokomis Healthy Seniors Program set up for fundraiser

### Saturday, October 15

#### Nokomis Healthy Seniors Fundraiser

4120 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Food, entertainment, prizes, and bake sale

For more information:  
612.729.5499

### Monday, October 24

#### Picture Day!

### Friday, October 28

#### WHS Parent Fundraiser

Check the WHS website for more news and events:

[www.watershedhs.org](http://www.watershedhs.org)

---

September 2011

## Transportation & Lunch

### Bus Transportation

We have issued 40 quarterly bus passes to students this month. These passes are good through November 5, 2011, and can be used anytime on the Metro transit, including Light Rail. The cost of these passes is \$87.50 per student per quarter.

In order to help offset this expense, we ask the parents/guardians who have students using this transportation to assist us by paying whatever amount you can afford.

### Lunch

Done Right Foods, Inc., is once again providing food

services for Watershed High. Breakfast and lunch are served daily and menus are posted at [www.watershedhs.org](http://www.watershedhs.org). The weekly cost for breakfast is \$9.25 and for lunch is \$16.25. We ask that you keep current with these costs. At the end of each month, any student whose account is not current will not be able to access the meals.

Lunch forms were provided at the beginning of the school year for every household. It is important that each of these forms be returned in order to make a determination as to those eligible for free or reduced meals. Without this information, we are unable

to determine need and will not be able to provide meals.

For more information on bus transportation and lunch service, contact **Sandra Smith** at **612.871.4363** or send an email to [ssmith@watershedhs.org](mailto:ssmith@watershedhs.org).

### Mission:

*Watershed High School, a public charter school since 2002, seeks to nurture the intellect, stimulate the will, and embrace the creative potential of youth in a balanced environment that engenders reverence, respect, and responsibility for nature and the needs of other human beings.*

Students at Watershed High School are supportive of one another creating an atmosphere in which the gifts of each individual can emerge and be valued.

***In our community, every student is an honored student.***



4544 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Email: [info@watershedhs.org](mailto:info@watershedhs.org)

Minneapolis, MN 55419  
Website: [www.watershedhs.org](http://www.watershedhs.org)

612.871.4363  
FAX: 612.871.1004