

School Committee report to the Yearly Meeting 2012

The School Committee has appreciated the continued strong leadership of Christine Ashley this year. Christine's energy and commitment to the sustainability and development of the school resonates throughout the School's community, for which we are extremely grateful. The School Committee has confidence in Christine's interpreting and manifesting the vision of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) for the School and is thankful to have her in the Head position.

Tasks addressed this year by the School Committee include new drafts and refinements of the strategic plan and the long-range plan. This attention focused on several areas: a strong academic program, staff salaries, a healthy enrollment and income from tuition, financial viability, and an efficient Earth-friendly and Spirit-led approach to the community's life style.

At the end of the normal seven-year cycle, the School has been reaccredited through Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS). ISACS provides commendations and recommendations for the School Committee and the School to consider. In their final conclusion of their report the ISACS Visiting Team state the following:

Many of us on the Visiting Team commented that we had not seen a school with a mission so manifest in daily conversation and behavior. Scattergood's constituents have reason for profound optimism as long as the school maintains its commitment to openness and integrity.

People of the Yearly Meeting can find these comments and other School Committee documents on the Yearly Meeting's website at the School Committee link listed under the Committee tab. A login and a password are required and can be obtained through the School Committee clerk. Much thanks goes to Steve Deatherage from Yahara Monthly Meeting who serves as our webster.

One of the challenges the School Committee has faced the past several years was a convoluted accounting system that now appears to have been rectified. We can report the completion of a successful audit this year that confirms our efforts in this area.

The School continues to be affected by the strain due to a lack of adequate funds that would cover needs faced by its farm and facilities, compensation and resources that could retain outstanding staff, and financial assistance needed to maintain a diverse student population. The plan for a capital campaign is being initiated to address some of these needs.

The School Committee appreciates the generous, creative, and varied means by which the Yearly Meeting and its individuals support its vibrant School that continues to be a living example of the School's mission and of our faith.

For the Committee,

Debbie Galusha, clerk