

September, 2008

Dear Parents of Land School Residency Students:

Days and evenings are getting cooler and Isaiah is excited that fall is here! The Homestead interior and Farmstead exterior got fresh coats of paint, Great River High School students worked on the landscaping, did loads of harvesting and did a controlled burn of the old tool shed—never a dull moment at the farm! Rena waves goodbye to Bryan and Isaiah each morning as they leave for Children's House in nearby Barron. Though Bryan no longer manages the kitchen, students will continue to eat nutritious and delicious meals while on Residency.

Included in this packet are several important documents needed for each Residency. *This is the only time hard copies are distributed, please save them.* All documents are also available on the Land School Residency section of the school website (lakecountryschool.org). Weekend information for the entire year is also on iCal. Families, please plan accordingly. Seasonal Land School events are for the entire community; these are wonderful times for students to connect to each other and enjoy the seasons. Prior to each Residency, I will e-mail parents a brief letter with any news specific to the upcoming Residency.

You should have several documents: a Residency Schedule, JH LS Agreement, Gear List, Contact Information, Parent Questionnaire and Student Essay form. The "Authorization for Administration of Medication at School" form for any prescriptions or over-the-counter medications that your child may be taking is also needed.

Please carefully review the JH Land School Agreement with your child. This agreement reflects our most current policies and was refined with the best interests of our community. Please sign this document with your son or daughter. We hope that you will have thoughtful conversations about expectations necessary for a successful program. We promise to have thoughtful conversations with them during the first days of their Residency and any time an issue becomes important to them. We also require each student to write about why they want to come for a Land School Residency, and what their expectations, concerns and hopes are for their time out here. Keep in mind, there are no "right" answers. I will collect this essay upon arrival.

Please send your parent questionnaire and medications form to the Land School with your child. Students should also plan to turn in all medications (including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins and herbal supplements) to me upon arrival.

Each Residency we request one parent be the transportation and communications coordinator. This person organizes carpooling for the weekends students return home and communicates via e-mail with me as the Residential

Coordinator. Please contact me at nwetzeltcurtis@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with this need during your child's Residency. We encourage students to take the lead in this and have found parental back-up to be helpful.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Residency Orientation on September 18 from 6-7pm. This is the only parent/staff meeting we will have this year; please plan to attend if your son or daughter will be on a Residency this year.

Again, please save these documents as they won't be distributed again. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the Residency. Doug Alecci, as the Land School liaison and Kris Schaefer as JH Coordinator may also be contacted with concerns or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Nadine

Nadine Wetzel-Curtis and the
Land School Staff: Jen Bush, Andy Gaertner,
and Donna Goodlaxson