



# DISTANCE LEARNING *Newsletter*

APRIL 28, 2020





## FROM THE DESK OF *Dr. Mortensen*

Greetings,

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for contributing to the growth that we, as a community, have made in the area of Distance Learning! It is hard to believe how far we have come in such a short time.

Secondly, and as you may already be aware of, **the Governor has extended the Distance Learning program model to be continued through the remainder of the current school year**. This means that our students will continue their school work at home and on-line, and not be returning to our building site until school resumes this coming fall.

I understand that this is challenging for our families, students, and staff members, however WLA believes that the decision is in the best interests of our students. I would add that WLA families, students, and staff members have been working very hard to launch a quality Distance Learning program, and I am honored to work in partnership with all of our WLA stakeholders.

I've seen amazing lessons and connections coming from the Distance Learning programming, and much love and respect being shared for the roles that we each have. That said, I would like to point out some key dates as we move forward together on this journey:

- **May 1st and May 4th are non-instructional days, per the Governor.** These are professional development days for our staff members to reflect upon what is going well and what yet needs to be adjusted.
- **May 29th will be the last day of school for all WLA K-8 students.** The Board voted to make that change from June 4th to May 29th in order to provide our staff members with additional time to conduct year end tasks.

Finally, our staff is working on Kindergarten Graduation, 8th Grade Graduation, and any other end of year activities we can organize to celebrate our students!

Thank you~

*Kathy Mortensen*

Dr. Kathy Mortensen  
Executive Director  
Woodbury Leadership Academy



# Construction Update!

The third floor is currently under construction and will be the new space for grades 5-8 beginning next school year.











# FROM THE *Board*

Even before these challenging times, we knew there was something special about the community at WLA, but that fact has become even more apparent over the past month. During some of our country's most challenging hours, our WLA community has really stepped up to meet the challenge, and that continues today. Thanks to the dedication of our administration, staff, teachers, volunteers, and parents – the students of WLA continue to meet, learn, and grow!

I do want to take a moment to recognize the real heroes in our midst - the children! These little heroes have stayed indoors more than they've ever known in their lives. Their whole worlds have literally been turned upside down. Most of them would much rather hang out at recess with their friends vs google. They'd prefer bustling classrooms vs Zoom. All the things they love like sports, being with friends, going to school, have all changed seemingly overnight. Our poor children's minds must be racing, but every day they get up and carry on despite all that's going on. Their resilience is so inspiring!

Now more than ever, social distancing protects us, but WLA connects us. Thank you again for all that you are doing for your communities and especially WLA.

In This Together,

*Mandi*  
Mandi Folks  
WLA Board Chair





## **Board of Directors 2020 Election**

Consider this: Just as we want our students to be leaders and live virtuous lives, the WLA community must model those same ideals. One way we do this is by volunteering to be a board member and/or voting for new members on the Board of Directors.

**This year, 3 open seats are up for election  
(Term June 2020 -June 2023):**

One parent, one teacher, one community member

Who elects the WLA Board? You do!

WLA parents and guardians, WLA faculty and staff,  
WLA community board members

### **How do I apply?**

Complete and return the attached Self-Nomination form

Self-Nomination forms are also available on the WLA website:

<http://www.wlamn.org/about-wla/board>

Key Dates for the 2020 Board Elections:

- April 24 - Call for Board Candidate Nominations
- May 15 - Close of Nominations at 4:00 PM
- May 26 – 29 - Voting Period (via electionrunner.com)
- May 29 - Close of Voting at 4:30 PM
- June 24 - Elected members announced at the regularly scheduled Board meeting



## **2020 Board Election Self-Nomination Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation to Woodbury Leadership Academy:

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Prepare a candidate statement that is a maximum of one page and includes the following questions:**

- What makes our mission and vision meaningful to you?
- Tell us about a time you stepped up into a leadership role.
- What do you think are the characteristics of a great board member?
- What educational innovations would you bring to WLA?

Nominations are due to Woodbury Leadership Academy  
by **4:00pm Friday, May 15, 2020**

Email completed self-nomination forms to [elections@wlamn.org](mailto:elections@wlamn.org)  
OR place completed self-nomination form in a sealed envelope  
and mail OR drop off at school!

**Woodbury Leadership Academy**  
Board Elections Committee  
8089 Globe Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55125

Thank you for your interest in serving Woodbury Leadership Academy!



# FROM THE PTO

## PTO update:

Due to COVID-19 we are canceling the following April and May in-person events: Culver's night, Wooddale FunZone skate and play night and the WLA Carnival. We look forward to bringing these and many more fun events back in the 2020-21 school year.

At this point we are not planning to hold the scheduled in-person elections scheduled for next month. The board consists of a President, Vice Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers. If you are interested in being a part of the board in the future, please email us at [wlaptomn@gmail.com](mailto:wlaptomn@gmail.com). Every parent or guardian of a WLA student is automatically considered a PTO member and always welcome to participate in school events and volunteering. :)

Have a wonderful week!

WLA PTO



## Help us remind our teachers and staff how much we love and appreciate them!

Just a reminder that the WLA PTO is promoting teacher and staff appreciation. Please join us in showing your appreciation by emailing pictures, notes, cards and photos to your WLA teachers and staff. They are working so hard on providing top-level distance learning for us and they miss seeing all of our kids.

### Some examples:

- Print the attached template and have your child color it and hold up for a picture
- Show a photo of your child in their work-space
- Take a picture playing outside
- Send thank you notes, cards, videos or anything else you'd like to share

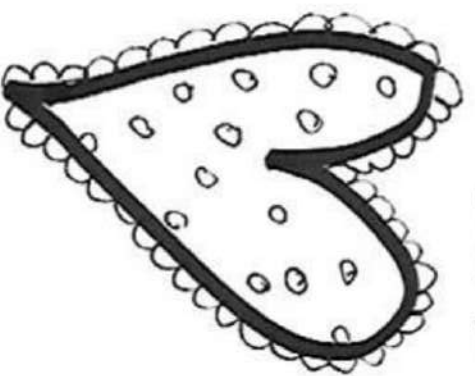
Please just snap a picture or write a note and email it directly to them to brighten their day. Shower as many teachers, specialists, para-professionals and staff as you'd like. :)

Email us at [wlaptomn@gmail.com](mailto:wlaptomn@gmail.com) with any questions.

hey,

LET'S  
PLAY

FOR  
YOU



from







# #yearbook

Online ordering for the 2019-2020  
yearbook has been re-opened!

**visit:**

[ybpay.lifetouch.com](https://ybpay.lifetouch.com)

**Yearbook ID Code:** 12717320

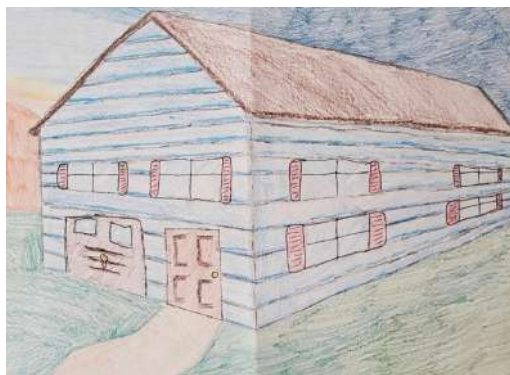
**Closes on Thursday 4/30.**

If you missed the deadline and would like  
to buy a copy, please send a check or cash  
to WLA for \$22 per yearbook with a note  
of the name of your student(s).

If you have any questions, please email  
[info@wlamn.org](mailto:info@wlamn.org)



Our WLA students have shown their artistic abilities over the past month of distance learning. The K-8 students continue to build their understanding of visual arts along with exploring their creativity.







ART







**P.E. K-5**







These are 1st grade illustrations of the story Hansel and Gretel, based on an episode of Classical Kids Storytime from Minnesota Public Radio.

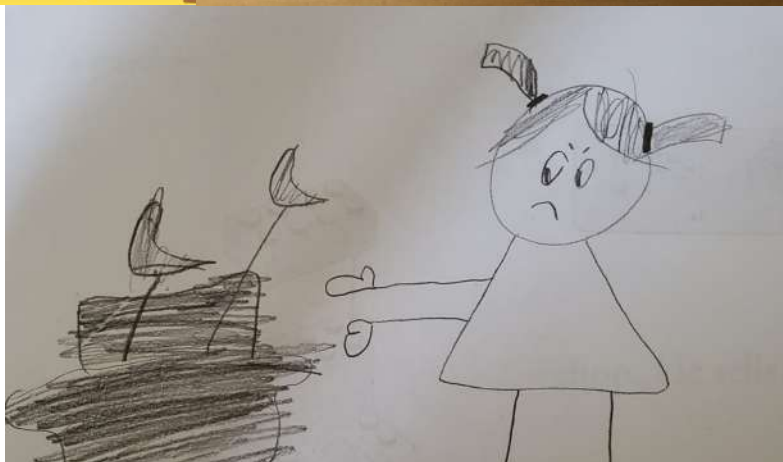
The episode features music from Engelbert Humperdinck's opera, Hansel and Gretel, which is a work from the 1st grade Core Knowledge music sequence.







MUSIC





# WLA Word Search

F B C V P A R T M M B Z L P Y G V V J W N W X V  
 J V K I S B K I I Q Q F X C V C U I B X U X Y C  
 J V W E E G N A R O T K O A C M A T H X A M L Y  
 J A D S G N M T Y G F H Z N J E M O R M J F E D  
 P Z D K E R E D U T I T A R G P B A E Z K R X X  
 V U P S D Y M E D A C A L L I A R H W T R E E N  
 P M O L Y V M U L L U N C H G E T R A W T E K O  
 S T I C A E A O K P N O S R S O X F J O E D K I  
 A E A J D N D Z Q Q Y R P P T D Y B U S L R Y T  
 C W H K A C G Y K N E E E E L E Z C Q S M E G A  
 O J Z A M L O U P D R C V N R W Q K M Y L S C C  
 H U X K A G J R A S T I S F E K M X T F G S S U  
 R R C H J B A E E G G N R V S H Y T G T Q B S D  
 B L U W A Z L V Y K E E C N E I C S E D Q J M E  
 I J F D P U E S Y R N A V Y B L U E D O O Z R L  
 E G Z L Q R X D G M U O R Y A M L R O X K I O A  
 N H P K A L R X U J E B W T Z H C R O T A U F C  
 J W G N S E A S C T V O D L S C T X R C I A I I  
 C S C M C X I Y Y J L Z O O E M A S H K D F N S  
 S E U E T C V A M J O F P I O D U T U L E C U Y  
 R C S O Y T I N A M U H Z G M W G C O A M G S H  
 G S N A E V P I Z Z A F R I D A Y E S J M U S P  
 N A T P K R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y I S K Z I  
 E R F H E Q Q S O C I A L S T U D I E S H D L K

- art
- minnesota
- torch
- social studies
- responsibility
- ckla
- give to the max
- leadership

- respect
- perseverance
- academy
- media
- pizza friday
- navy blue
- uniforms
- humanity

- physical education
- gratitude
- orange
- core knowledge
- pajama day
- recess
- science

- music
- woodbury
- free dress
- lunch
- math
- language arts
- bus







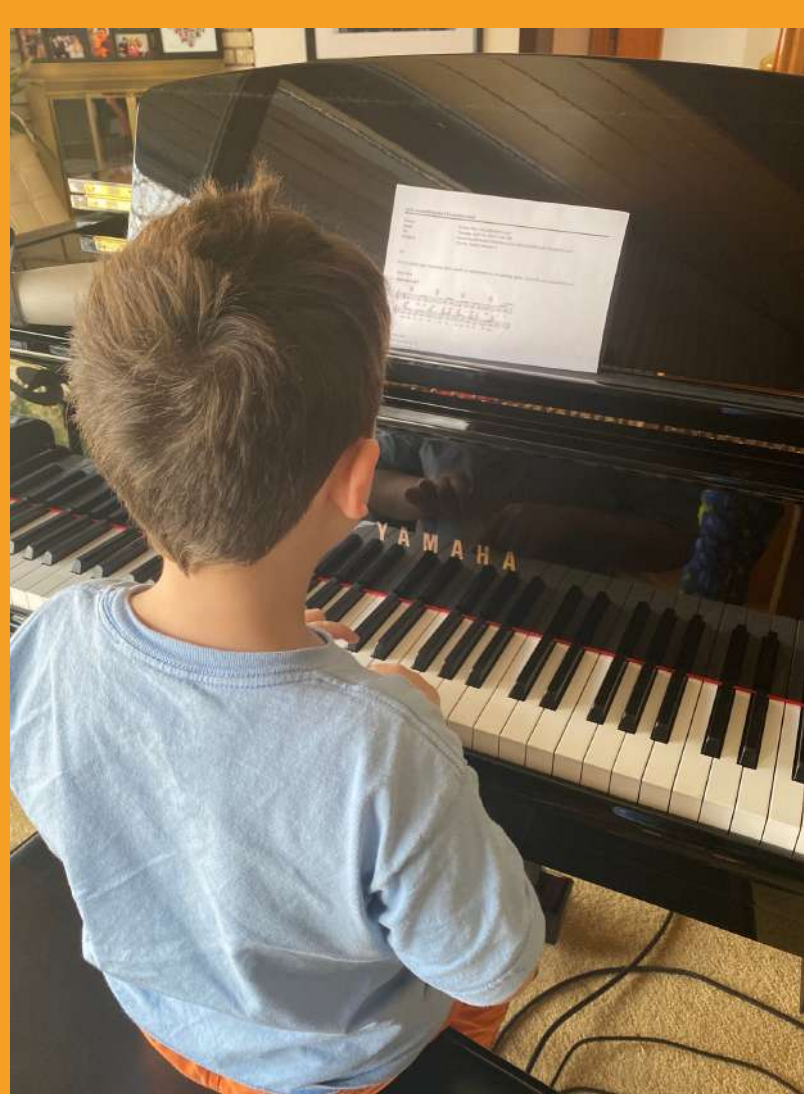


*We miss you!*

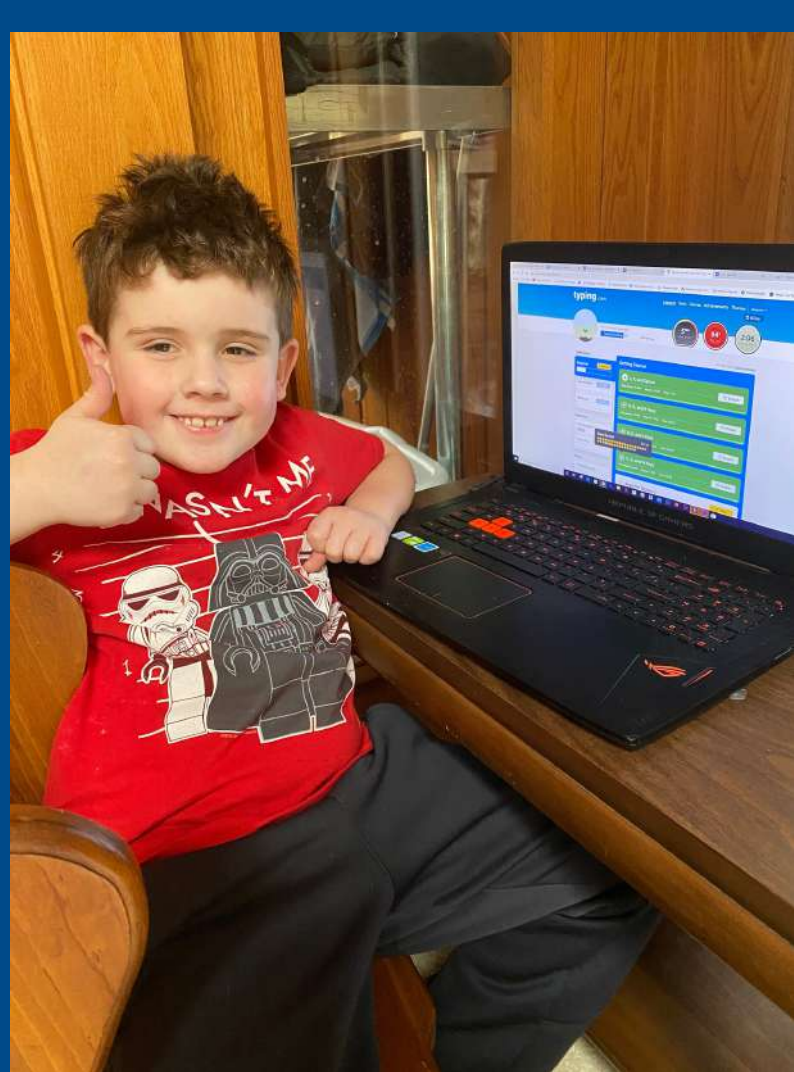
**WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE  
YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!**



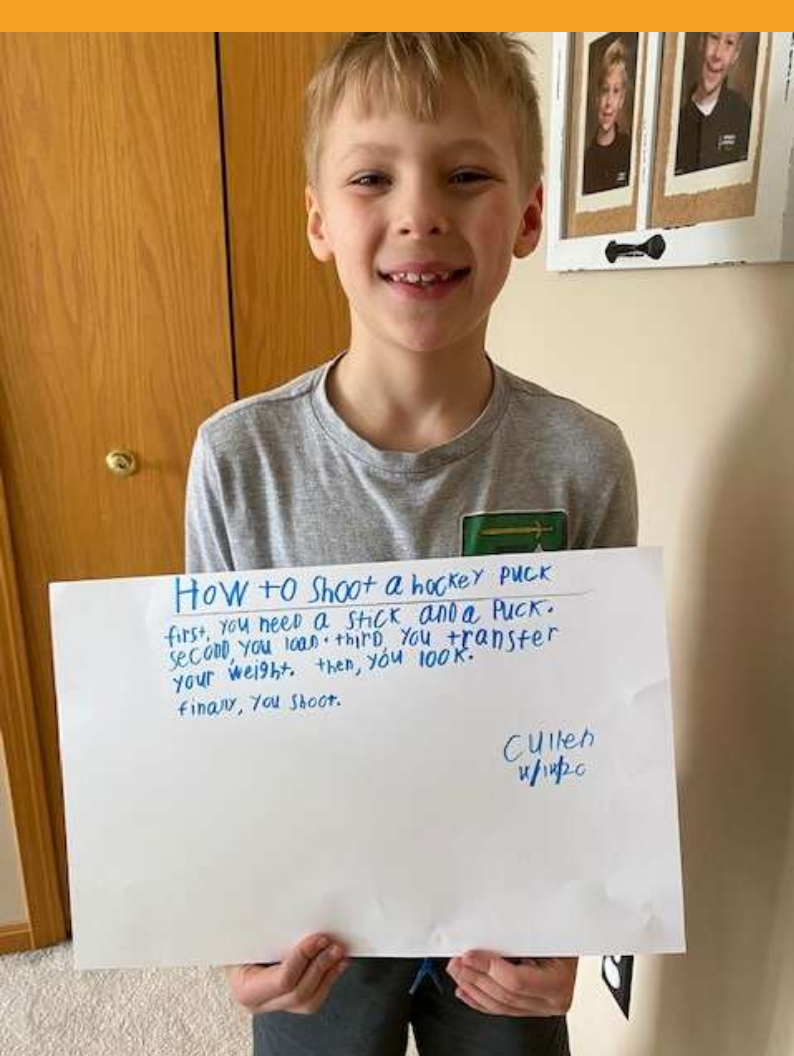
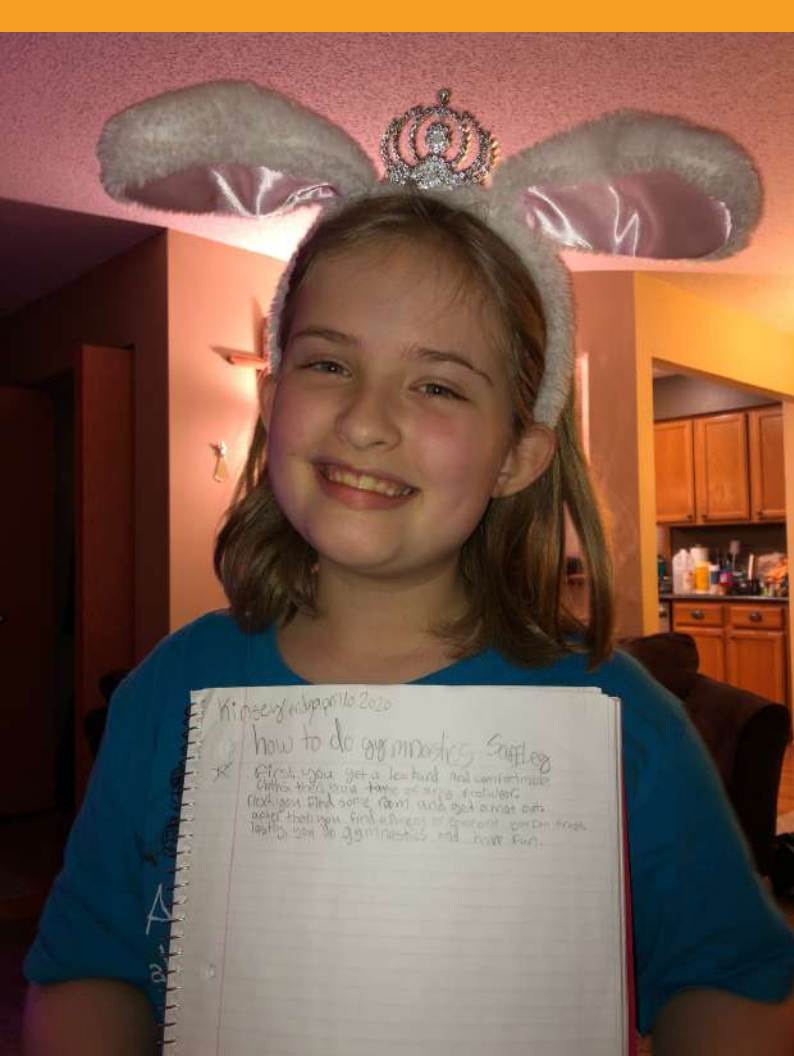














Share with us!  
Send any pictures from  
distance learning to  
**[info@wlamn.org](mailto:info@wlamn.org)**



Teacher Appreciation Week begins on May 4th!  
The rest of the newsletter consists of printables for  
students to color at home for their teachers.

part the world  
**SUPER**  
**COLORING**





is a terrific teacher!

★ You make me feel special when you

★ My favorite memory with you is

★ You always say

★ You help me

★ After school, my teacher likes to

★ Here's what you keep in your desk drawer:

THANK YOU FROM

!