



Peace Valley Family Council

Welcome to Peace Valley Waldorf Charter School! We are thrilled to have you join our community. Peace Valley is a special place, and we hope your children and your family thrive here.

Purpose of Family Council

The Peace Valley Family Council develops community and facilitates family involvement in school life and culture. We are an all-volunteer organization open to parents and other adult family members of students attending Peace Valley Charter School. There are 4 elected officers who listen and guide family involvement. Family Council meetings are held the 3rd Friday of the month at 9am. Please attend meetings as you're able. Locations will vary to support our families availability and encourage involvement. Please check the school calendar at <https://boisewaldorf.org> for date, time, and location.

Committees

We currently have three committees and five subcommittees and encourage you to get involved wherever possible! Where are your interests and talents and how can they enhance our community and support our school? To join or learn more about any of these committees, please email familycouncil@boisewaldorf.org

Festivals and Fundraising:

- **Festivals**

In conjunction with the faculty Festivals Committee, we look to provide volunteer support for Waldorf festivals and celebrations throughout the year. Also, collaborates with families to plan and support community celebrations (Winter Faire and May Faire).

- **Fundraising**

Working together with the faculty Fundraising Committee to plan and host several fundraisers throughout the year. Projects include community festivals, a book fair, partnerships, dine-outs, apparel sales and more.

Environment and Community:

- **Garden Guild**

A Biodynamic garden is a vital part of any Waldorf School. We are working together to create a vibrant and sustainable outdoor learning environment for our students. Current projects include, design, installing raised planting beds and a hoop house, supporting teachers in starting plants for fruit tree guilds, mapping and maintaining a city water sprinkler system, maintaining the garden and food waste pile, (from school lunches) and building a passive compost pile.

- **Enrichment**

(Parent) Organizes and facilitates events to educate and empower parents as members of our growing Waldorf community.

(Student) This group works to create clubs & other student enrichment activities in collaboration with the school administration.

Facilities and Grounds

Works together with the Faculty Curriculum and Environment Committee to support our current and growing needs and to create a beautiful, sustainable and functional school building and campus.

Outreach:

Welcomes new and prospective families into our school community with picnics, welcome packets and tours. We also share information about Peace Valley with the greater Boise community by occasionally attending educational and children's conferences and other events.

Keep in Touch

Over the summer, we will debut a newsletter featuring staff and family spotlights and keep you informed about get-togethers and volunteer opportunities. Each class has an assigned Class Parent Representative who will also reach out to you with opportunities within your child's class. If you use Facebook, you may join our private group, "Peace Valley Family Council" to connect with other

parents. You can always email familycouncil@boisewaldorf.org with any questions or concerns.

Peace Valley Handbook Highlights

Guidelines subject to change upon publication of 2020/2021 Family Handbook

Food

- Children should bring a nutritious snack and lunch from home. Please do not send candy, sweets, or sugared juices or drinks. Reusable containers and food that is free of excessive packaging is encouraged.
- Peace Valley has adopted a policy of treat-free birthday celebrations.
- Students are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle each day.

Dress Code

- No commercialized characters or oversized lettering on clothing / backpacks / lunch boxes that advertise products or movies. (For example: No Disney characters, but a generic animal or design is okay)
- Weather appropriate clothing. The kids go outside every single day no matter the weather! Layering is encouraged in cold weather as well as sending hats and gloves.
- Closed-toed, closed back shoes that support the foot for all kinds of movement and activity (no flip-flops, Crocs, platforms, high heels, backless shoes or clogs, shoes with wheels or lights)
- Well-fitting athletic wear is allowed, but brand logo images must be smaller than an adult hand
- Simple jewelry that doesn't inhibit activity is acceptable
- Hairstyles that are age and culture appropriate in the student's natural color
- No make-up or nail polish for grades K-6

Screen Time

Peace Valley encourages families to significantly limit, or eliminate entirely screen viewing (video games, TV, phone, tablets, etc.), particularly Sunday evening through Friday after school.

Becoming a Volunteer

Peace Valley encourages parents (and/or extended family) to contribute a total of 30 hours per year to the school for each child attending, or 75 hours for families with three or more children. Help with festivals, fundraising events, plays, and work parties are

some suggestions. Please call the front office or visit boisewaldorf.org/parents for details about volunteer tiers and how to apply. Peace Valley requires a volunteer application, online training, and in some instances a criminal background check (including fingerprints).

Classroom Chores

Students will be given regular chores to assist in caring for their classroom community. Chores may include: sweeping, washing desks, organizing art supplies, tidying shoes and cubby area, caring for plants or pets in the classroom, emptying the recycling and trash bins, etc.

Fundraising

We are a tuition-free public charter school. In Idaho, charter schools do not receive the funding equivalent to a traditional public school. Our school depends on fundraising throughout the year to help fill this gap. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for any support you can offer.

Together we serve,

Amy Ray - Family Council Chair

Christi Phillips - Family Council Vice Chair

Elysia Maier - Family Council Volunteer Coordinator

Kendra Dixon - Family Council Secretary