

High School

As the concluding chapter to a student's 12-plus-year experience of Waldorf Education, the High School is committed to assuring that each Seattle Waldorf School graduate is adequately prepared to meet a range of post-secondary educational opportunities. The demanding curriculum requires that students with specific learning challenges have effective one-on-one support. We offer such individual support at four levels:

Level 1: Advising

Teachers and advisors routinely meet with students individually outside of class on an as-needed basis, whenever there is difficulty -- be it with specific course material or more broadly with skills such as note taking, study skills, and organization. If this routine level of support does not prove to be adequate, the advisor will refer a student for more extensive tutoring support by speaking with the HS Director and/or Educational Support Team Leader. Additional support may be provided in one of the following ways:

Level 2: Outside Tutors

When a student's difficulties appear to be confined to one particular subject area, yet are extensive enough that the teacher of that subject is not able to supply adequate individual support, we may ask that parents engage an outside tutor. In this situation the tutor would not be expected to need a significant amount of information or ongoing coordination from the school. Funding for outside tutoring is the responsibility of the family.

Level 3: Time-Limited Educational Support Plan

When it appears that the need for one-on-one skill development is in an area which relates across several subject areas (for example, written work in the Morning Lesson Book), and which will require the tutor to have a close understanding of the expectations and materials of the Waldorf curriculum as well as good coordination with the SWHS Faculty, educational support is provided by an SWHS Educational Support Team member. An individual plan for educational services is developed and agreed upon with the family, and may be established for a limited period of time, or for the entire school year. Funding of a high school plan for educational support is the responsibility of the family.

Level 4: Year-Long Educational Support Plan

During the process of applying to the High School, the HS Admissions Director in conjunction with the HS Director and Educational Support Team Leader may determine that a particular student has significant learning challenges which make it unlikely that the student would be able to meet the expectations of the program without accommodation and daily educational support. The student may be offered admission, but with the stipulation that the family agrees to a year-long educational support plan for one-on-one support provided by the SWHS Educational Support team., and agrees to pay for this additional services. This level of support typically includes: working closely with the student's teachers to understand assignments and expectations, in order to provide on-going support to the student; developing reasonable accommodations for testing and assignment completion; and periodic communication with the student's parents regarding progress as well as any need for specific parental support for academic success. Level IV Educational Support funding is included in the student-specific yearly Tuition Agreement.