Our Mission

We provide a personalized learning path integrating social, academic and life skills for students with autism spectrum disorder and individual learning needs.
Welcome! This year brought unprecedented challenges, but we continue to be grateful for each member of our AOWL community. More than ever, this year proves that—together—we can overcome any obstacle.

Throughout the year, our students, families, staff, board of trustees, and donors supported us in all the ways we have come to rely upon. Students come to class eager to learn, families work with us to ensure student success, staff offer top-notch education and clinical services, our trustees provide steady counsel, and donors continue to extend their generosity.

When COVID-19 emerged in the spring, everyone stepped up. Students demonstrated their patience as educational models necessarily changed, families were flexible and understanding, staff came together to ensure the best service possible under the circumstances, our trustees dedicated significant time to guide us, and—when we had to cancel our largest fundraiser—donors rallied and raised over $200,000 to provide essential mental health services and exceptional education to students.

We are pleased that, even in the midst of a pandemic, we have been able to expand our services. And so, as we look forward, we look to a bright future where we can support even more students and offer additional therapy services to those in need. As we continue our commitment to excellence in all of our endeavors, we are heartened by the challenges we have faced this year, for they have reminded us that our community can overcome any challenge.

Together, we are resilient.

Wyayn Rasmussen, EdD
Executive Director

John Higgins
Board of Trustees Chair
“The dreams I have for her future are now attainable. It’s something that every child deserves – a chance to learn in an environment that works for them and promotes their uniqueness. It’s the hope my family has found at Academy of Whole Learning.”

Wyayn Rasmussen, EdD
Executive Director

Brenda Tollas, EdM
Head of School

Carly Kortuem
Director of Strategic Advancement

Katie Thormodsgaard, MSW, LICSW
Director of Therapy Services

Mike Onan
Director of Finance

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Executive Director

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Ross Olson
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Kim Snow
Bob Tift, EdD
Strategic Plan Highlights

While 2019-2020 will go down in history, our strategic plan put us in a position of strength, allowing us to thrive during COVID-19 challenges.

Program Improvements

New STEM courses for high school students using the Design Thinking Process

Use of Virtual Reality in the classroom to increase student engagement

New supports for high school students with the addition of a Post-secondary Career and Education Counselor.

Streamlined enrollment process through the use of EnrollMe and evergreen contracts

A new classroom model with a behavior therapist in each Lower and Middle School classroom

Executive functioning and social emotional learning assessments for each student and client, and a subsequent personalized learning plan

Jobs program creation within the school

Mentorship program with Best Buy - students learned various aspects of acquiring, retaining and succeeding at a career

Better supports for staff with a restructuring of administrative staff and the hiring of a Head of School and a new Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation
Celebrating Growth

570% increase in therapy service hours provided

95% staff retention

Parent Amy Higgins awarded Special Olympics Outstanding Volunteer Award for 2019

Increased financial aid and awarded full scholarships to qualifying students for the first time

The Board of Trustees developed a long-term facilities plan for a permanent home

Improved our staff benefit package to include Dependent Care FSA

Teacher Kade Dreschler awarded 2019 MISF Honor Teacher of the Year (Grades K-8)

COVID-19 Response

Personalized virtual learning plans for all students and clients

COVID-19 family resource page on website

20-member COVID-19 safety and preparedness task force created

Expanded Accessibility to Mental Health Services

Free psychotherapy sessions during distance learning

A board certified behavior analyst (BCBA), new psychotherapist and 2 behavior therapists added to therapy staff

Therapy Services covered by 4 additional insurance providers
“There are really nice people and they know how to help us kids. I am not getting as frustrated as I was before. I feel like I am getting a lot more work done. There is a lot of people to help me here.”

-Student, Grade 6

“The school makes me feel like a calming waterfall. One of the coolest things I’ve learned here is just how kind everyone is.”

-Student, Grade 4
### Financials

#### Income Statement
Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 2020

**Revenue**
- Unrestricted Donations: $526,457
- Restricted Donations: $294,985
- Tuition & Fees: $2,084,753
- Beyond the Bell & Summer Camp Fees: $184,781
- Therapy Services Revenue: $194,431
- Other Revenue: $32,573
- Total Revenue: $3,317,980

**Expenses**
- Salaries & Benefits: $2,204,427
- Occupancy Costs: $251,647
- Tuition Assistance: $342,629
- Other Expenses: $292,117
- Total Expenses: $3,090,826

**Net Income**
- Reinvested in AOWL’s mission: $227,160

#### Expense Breakdown

- Program: 75%
- Administrative: 8%
- Development: 8%

#### Revenue by Type

- Tuition and Fees: 63%
- Support: 25%
- Program Services: 6%
- Therapy Services: 5%
- Other Income: 5%

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### Balance Sheet
July 31, 2020

**Assets**
- Cash, Savings & Investments: $2,131,363
- Receivables: $207,937
- Other Assets: $140,413
- **Total Assets**: $2,479,713

**Liabilities**
- Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses: $146,224
- Deferred Revenue: $642,867
- Refundable Advance: $386,600
- **Total Liabilities**: $1,175,891

**Net Assets**
- Unrestricted - Undesignated: $447,959
- Unrestricted - Endowment: $620,079
- Restricted: $235,766
- **Total Net Assets**: $1,303,822

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets**: $2,479,713

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### Student Enrollment

- **Revenue**

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**Academy of Whole Learning**
### Donors

#### $25,000+
- Anonymous
- David and Kitty Crosby - The Longview Foundation
- Robert and Teri Crosby - The Longview Foundation
- John and Amy Higgins
- Babs Koch
- Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
- John and Mary Ursu

#### $10,000-$24,999
- Allison and Jim Barosko from the Rosemary and David Good Family Fund of the St. Paul Foundation
- Rosemary and David Good
- Shavlik Family Foundation
- Donna and Rob Sheeley
- Kim and Buddy Snow - The Longview Foundation

#### $5,000-$9,999
- Mike and Stacey Crosby - The Longview Foundation
- David and Kitty Crosby
- Dianne Dingmann and Lynn Spelman
- Jen and Todd Graham
- Leuthold Family Foundation
- Ivan Levy
- United Health Group
- Jamf Nation Global Foundation

#### $1,000-$4,999
- Anonymous
- Allison and Jim Barosko
- David and Deb Beard
- Bio Techne
- Boyum and Baren Scheer
- Jordan Brown and Anne Ursu
- Capernaum Pediatric Therapy, Inc.
- Carolyn Foundation
- CarVal Investors
- Henry Chang and Sherri Knopik
- Ben Christenson and Colleen Wilkinson
- CMG Marketing & Events, LLC
- Corval Group
- Ellie Crosby - The Longview Foundation
- Mike and Peg Cuccia
- Delta Dental of MN
- Robert Dingmann and Ethan Reynolds
- Mary C. Dolan - The Longview Foundation
- Becky Erdahl
- Gary and Cathie Erickson
- Margie and Steve Fuchs
- Susie Fry
- Stephen Fry
- Rebecca Gibson
- Donna and Robert Grubka
- Kate and Rick Hartfiel
- Christopher Hermann and Brian Pietsch
- Rita Higgins
- The Howard and Nikki Applebaum Foundation
- JJS Property Management, Inc.
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- Jen and Elliot Konschak
- John Liddicoat
- Steve Livermore
- Medtronic
- Kristen Miller
- Minnesota Independence College and Community
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- Jim and Lisa Nyhusmoen
- Old National Bank
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- Josh Pearson
- Brooke and Julian Reed
- Patty Salmon
- Erika Schinler
- Sit Investment Associates Foundation
- Straight Line Theory
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- Ron and Lori Touchette
- Jason Wagner
- Douglas and Claudia Wall
- Tyler Wall
- Joe and JoAnn Ward
- Wells Fargo
- Eleanor Winston
$100-$499

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Ameriprise Financial Inc.
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Walter and Marjorie Benjamin
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Judith and Bill Boudreau
Lindsey and Tim Brandt
Mike and Kerry Brown
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Cargill
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General Mills Foundation
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The Higgins Family
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Delta Dental of Minnesota
Capernaum Pediatric Therapy
Corval Group
JJS Property Management
Minnesota Independence College and Community
Murray Road Agency
Old National Bank
Straight Line Theory
Boyum Barenscheer
Gefrey Rasmussen Dentistry
Anne Ursu and Jordan Brown
Kwik Trip

$500-$999

Amy and Kirk Aadalen
Deb Basco
Dave and Erin Berglund
Daniels Development Corp
Rosemary Dingmann
Grace and Wade Dunkley
Amy Eklund
Minnesota Voice and Speech Clinic
Christine Dubord and Kenan Hanhan
Jan Godeke
James and Kelsey Goth
Leah and Jason Harp
Laura Hooper
Minnetonka Fire
Ligand Corporation
Kwik Trip
The Park Tavern
REMS VR Lab
Nan Etzwiler and Dan O’Neill

David and Sandra Frauenshuh
William Froehlich
Dawn Igoe
Christi and Brandon Kruse
Janelle and Ben Meier
Patrick and Agi Mulvihill
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