

About

Friends of Wingra gratefully accepts articles, story ideas, photos, "What's New with You" contributions, comments, inquiries, and address changes at the address on the back cover, attention Rebekah Bovenmyer. Or by email to rebekah@wingraschool.org.

Head of School

Paul Brahce

Editor

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Layout

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Between issues of *Friends of Wingra*, visit www.wingraschool.org for recent news and events.

Sign up for the e-newsletter at www.wingraschool.org.

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Regina Whitmarsh ('02), Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Letter From Paul

Dear Friends,

It all comes down to relationships. When students feel connected to a community of peers and have relationships with their teachers that are grounded in genuine caring and mutual respect, learning thrives.

When teachers plan and teach collaboratively, their own experiences are enhanced and the school program is relevant and alive for their students.

When parents are involved at school and feel a true sense of partnership with teachers, they develop connections in the community that support an integrated home/school experience for their children.

Relationships that begin at Wingra often continue long after the student (or parent, or staff member) has left. An important function of this newsletter is to enhance and sustain these valuable connections.

In this edition, I hope you are as inspired as I am by former director Joyce Perkins' moving reflection on her 35-year (and counting...) association with Wingra and her thoughts on keeping the magic alive.

You will learn how our wonderful library got started from longtime librarian, Angie Sparks, and find out about her current project creating a web-based catalog.

Our Values

Our conduct and attitudes reflect our core values, which allow us to be an active model of progressive education as an independent school for independent minds.

Community

We encourage individuals to understand their inter-connectedness within the school and beyond as they build relationships with others and consider the impact of their actions.

Thoughtful Expression

We value the opinions and contributions of those involved with the school, and we reflect mutual respect, trust, and dignity in our exchanges.

Responsiveness

We nurture a dynamic environment that considers changing needs and circumstances to promote individual achievement in the context of community.



Paul Brahce, Head of School

In the Profiles section, you will meet (or catch up on) some of the amazing folks in our big Wingra family—alumnus Leo Sidran; parents of a recent graduate, Greg and Kay Simmons; and alumna and current parent, Nora Edie.

Happy reading!

Our Mission

Wingra School provides a progressive educational experience that nurtures individual development and affirms connections to a broader community by

- emphasizing learning as an intrinsically meaningful lifelong process
- cultivating academic excellence in a manner that develops the whole child
- creating an environment that fosters both relationships and independence, and
- forming partnerships to foster mutual learning and expand opportunities.