The Vancouver Waldorf School
EDUCATION TOWARDS FREEDOM

TUITION ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM (TAP)

Choosing independent education for your child and family is a decision that requires much consideration, on both philosophical and financial levels. In an ideal world we would choose the educational system we want for our children based on its relative merits and not by financial ability to pay.

The intention behind the Tuition Adjustment Program is to make Waldorf education accessible to as many families as possible while balancing the financial health of the School, thereby enhancing the diversity and richness of our community. The Tuition Adjustment Program is designed to support families without the means in meeting the costs of tuition. We recognize that economic obstacles to the full and rounded development of individual children can result in a loss to us all as a community and society. Therefore, balanced with a strong sense of fiscal responsibility, we see tuition adjustment as an addition to our whole rather than a reduction in our income.

Every attempt is made to distribute TAP funding as fairly as possible, balancing a family's desire for quality education with their ability to pay. It is a fair and equitable process where assistance is granted on the basis of economic need. The social health of our community requires that we work together creatively to help each other view financial issues in new ways.

The TAP will ensure that a fair and transparent process is in place so the School can be a healthy, financially responsible and fully accountable organization. If it is truly a financial hardship to your family to pay the full fees, then tuition adjustment will be granted confidentially and without judgment. We trust that every family will evaluate their financial situation honestly and provide the documentation required in a timely and co-operative manner.

The responsibility for financing a student's independent school education rests with the family. When applying for tuition adjustment for your family, please consider the following:

1. Are there any other funding sources that can be pursued? Is there a parent, grand-parent, god-parent or family relative who might be inspired to help with tuition or make a donation to the school?

2. What choices have we made to free-up our financial situation to allow us to contribute to the school? Have we simplified our expenses and living arrangements?

3. Is our family's need for tuition adjustment temporary? When our financial situation changes positively, can we provide more, or can we re-pay the difference?

Process

Families applying for Tuition Adjustment will be requested to fill out an online application through our third party specialized reviewer, Apple Financial Services and work openly and co- operatively in providing that reviewer with the information required. The application and financial

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analysis recommendations are then forwarded to the Tuition Adjustment Committee. All information is treated with discretion and kept confidential. Recommended tuition amounts from Apple Financial Services are based on cost of living standards and the size of the family among other considerations. All information provided by families is held in strict confidence by Apple Financial Services and the members of the Tuition Adjustment Committee.

Eligibility

Families are eligible to apply for Tuition Adjustment for children enrolled in Kindergarten through grade 12. Adjustments are not available for Pre-School, Parent & Tot and After Care Programs or Bus Transportation Services. Families applying must have any current accounts in good standing..

Deadlines

- The annual deadline is **February 28th for returning families.**
- **New families should apply after they have been accepted.**
- **Every family must apply annually**
- Submission deadlines for applications will be strictly adhered to. TA will not be available to late applicants.

School Supplies and Community fees are not eligible for adjustment and are mandatory fees for all families. The adjusted tuition along with the school supplies and community fees will be included in the total amount owed and are spread out over 12 months beginning May 1st for each coming school year.