

AWSNA's Statement of Equality:

Waldorf Schools espouse principles of respect for human rights and the diversity of humankind and believe that inclusivity and equality is a journey of both moral and educational importance. Our schools are in alignment with the Stuttgart Declaration, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the German Association of Waldorf Schools (Bund der Freien Waldorfschulen) in Stuttgart on October 28, 2007. This declaration was made to unequivocally clarify the intents of Rudolf Steiner's pedagogical theories and work and to explicitly reject allegations that Waldorf schools in any way espouse racist or nationalistic views. An adapted translation of parts of the Stuttgart Declaration (as authorized by the European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education - ECSWE) reads as follows:

Racist or discriminatory tendencies are not tolerated in Waldorf schools or Waldorf teacher training institutes. The Waldorf school movement explicitly rejects any attempt to misappropriate Waldorf pedagogy or Rudolf Steiner's work for racist or nationalistic purposes.

Waldorf schools have been working on the basis of these principles since the movement was founded in 1919. Institutions working out of Waldorf Education are today engaged in all parts of the world, including areas of social tension in Europe, Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East.

Waldorf schools pursue their pedagogical tasks out of the spirit of human rights, thereby contributing to building a society founded upon mutual respect, tolerance and cooperation between all human beings.

Waldorf schools do not select, stratify or discriminate amongst their pupils, but consider all human beings to be free and equal in dignity and rights, independent of ethnicity, national or social origin, gender, language, religion, and political or other convictions.

Anthroposophy, upon which Waldorf Education is founded, stands firmly against all forms of racism and nationalism. Waldorf schools recognize that the richness inherent in a school community is built upon the synergy between both curriculum and students studying that curriculum. To this end, Waldorf schools not only aim to build school communities that are reflective of the larger community in which we are located, but also intentionally promote the synergistic interaction between the elements of the community.

Honoring the multiple perspectives that exist in our increasingly diverse communities, we heed the call for ongoing conversation in education and collectively.