

Hurlbutt Street School House 1834 - 1935

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HURLBUTT STREET SCHOOL HOUSE, INC.

Preserve ~~ Educate ~~ Appreciate

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

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Dear Members, Neighbors and Friends:

I am happy to report that our school is in good physical shape because it has been well Preserved! Earlier Board members were vigilant in setting aside money to maintain the physical condition of the building and this practice has been followed by the recent Boards. Routine upkeep has been an excellent investment in the future of the building. The new roof is in fine shape, the paint on the outside of the building is still looking well, and the front grounds look well too. We appreciate the help given to us by Nate DeFeo who weed whacked the lawn all spring, summer, and early fall with some help from Chris McCann. We are so fortunate that the Silva family and the DeFeo family also took on the task of fall clean-up for us! We have great Board members who contribute their time and involve their families in the upkeep of the schoolhouse too!

Unfortunately, our other two goals: to <u>Educate</u> and to <u>Appreciate</u> have been difficult to achieve during the pandemic. The public schools have justifiably cancelled all field trips this year for the entire school system, making this our <u>third year</u> with no children coming to learn and to experience life in early schools! We are in touch with the Social Studies Co-Ordinator who is trying to organize something with us. We are not sure what form this will take, but truly nothing can replace the experience the children have of "stepping back into time" with a visit to the school where they are immersed in earlier times on so many levels. Early education will be taught using the curriculum we gave the school system, but it will all be taught in their classroom. Perhaps by springtime, trips to review and to culminate the year will be possible.

Let's hope life at the little school will return to a more normal state next year. In the meantime, please know that we are being attentive and trying hard. If it is possible for you to make a donation of any size this year, it would be very much appreciated, as we now have had no steady field trip income for three years. We have expenses looming on the horizon (essential tree trimming of overhanging limbs, interior painting, chimney/stove cleaning, and in a year, applying a preservative coat to the cedar shingles on our roof). Hopefully next year we will be able to give you a glowing report of our little schoolhouse back up, running and educating our children! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Linda Schmidt, President