

## **Beardsley School Charter (Revised 8/31/2016)**

In the year 2000, the congregation of the Unitarian Church in Westport voted to adopt Beardsley School in Bridgeport as a Social Action Priority Program. Today, the mission of the Beardsley School Committee is *to have a significant and tangible impact on the lives of children in the Beardsley School community. We aim to supplement, enhance and strengthen the educational experience at Beardsley School for students, staff and families, and to engage as many volunteers as possible in the process.*

### **In keeping with our mission statement, the committee aims to:**

1. Act as a vehicle through which the congregation may connect to our adopted school.
2. Continue to improve, expand and upgrade the facilities, books and services of the Beardsley School library.
3. Provide mentors, tutors and readers for teachers.
4. Coordinate annual UU Read Aloud Day and assist with Citywide Read Aloud Day.
5. Provide vital school supplies for our teachers via the Beardsley Board.
6. Provide emergency relief as needed. (household goods, clothing, food).
7. Raise funds as needed for field trips or cultural events. Continue search for new sources of donations from the greater community.
8. Support Secret Santa project.
9. Host a Beardsley-UCW potluck supper.
10. Celebrate Teacher Appreciation Day. (gift cards, student participation and refreshments)
11. Provide guest speakers. (Local children's books authors and other areas of interest)
12. Inform the congregation of activities via regular Soundings articles.
13. Set and review goals annually.

**Roles:** Our committee is designated to the following areas: Library, Anita Pfluger; Beardsley Board, Jamie Forbes; Mentor, Reader and Tutor Coordinator, Carol Seiple; General Support, Carol Dannhauser; Read Aloud Day Coordinator, Lorna Donnelly; Soundings writer, Lynne Laukhuf; Fund Raiser, Lynne Brooks; Secret Santa, Felicity Medinger. As chairperson, Mary Beth Mollica organizes, sets the calendar for and takes notes of monthly meetings, collects and processes incoming monetary donations for fund drives, oversees the Beardsley UUCW account, keeps a record of and writes thank you notes to donors, collects and delivers donations of supplies to Beardsley weekly, photographs events and recruits speakers/performers.

**Guidelines:** The committee meets on the third Monday of every month at Penny's Diner in Fairfield. We meet with our Principal monthly, or as needed. Communication with the congregation takes the form of articles in the newsletter and email blasts via David Vita, Director of Social Justice, and the church administrative office.

**Accountability:** The chair keeps a spreadsheet of all activities since 2001 and the committee annually marks our progress against our stated goals.