

Living School Association, Inc.

7910 Viola Ct. Sebastopol, CA 95472
(707) 823-2593

received
3-18-94

December 24, 1993

Chief Wilma Mankiller
C/O St. Martin's Press
175 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10010

Handwritten signature: "Shirley" and "Mankiller" with a checkmark.

Dear Chief Wilma Mankiller,

I felt inspired and uplifted the day I heard you at Copperfield Book Store in Sebastopol. Thank you for your part in this 'Greater Scheme of Things' and for the many blessings your work brings forth.

I hope you will find the time to read the enclosed material about Living School Association, and feel moved to pass the information on to the appropriate officials and lay people in your nation. I feel responsible to the vision of Living Schools as I do a child I have given birth to.

There are a number of ways to put the idea of Living Schools to good use. One way is to have a whole school adopt/integrate the three primary aspects which make a Living School a living school: 1. Living School's 3R's (Reverence, Responsibility, Right Action); 2. Honor the individual as a whole person; and 3. Involve the community (Focusing on the immediate neighborhood with a special invitation to elders), serve the community (In our Living School, Fridays are designated for community service/participation---be it helping an infirm neighbor, serving in a nursery program, or assisting dad or mom in their workplace.)

Another way is to create a number of Living Schools in private homes, community centers, certain designated rooms within an existing school, etc. There may be those among your people be they educators retired elders or working adults who might embrace the vision of Living School Association by coordinating a Living School right in their own home. A Living School like the Lauria Living School in Sebastopol could be associated with Living School Association and a public school, or be independent of public schools.

Living School Association is a move toward greater effectiveness with our youth and a step toward a more peaceful tomorrow. I would like to see Living Schools publicly funded. We now have public schools, private schools, and home schools. I wish to establish Living Schools as an independent category. It seems this will be far more likely if enough educators and communities stand under the umbrella of Living School Association.

The recent tragedy in Petaluma where Polly Klass was abducted from her home and then found dead has received national attention. It seems that the very people who grow up to be abusers, killers.... have themselves been abused.... somehow lost in the shuffle at an early age. Building more prisons is not the solution.