

A last word on Prosser Creek Charter School

*Author's note:
The topic of this week's article is in no way intended to point blame or accusation regarding the school's termination. It is simply a remembrance of a unique and positive educational experience.*



VICKI ISACOWITZ
On education

Prosser Creek Charter School existed as an alternative form of public education. It allowed students to learn at their own pace, whether it be modified or accelerated.

Individualized education acknowledged the varying needs of each student, creating strong pathways toward attainable goals and achievements. Smaller class sizes promoted an increase in learning and communication between teachers and students. The ability and opportunity to take initiative by creating and implementing programs made Prosser Creek an attractive environment for employment. Parental involvement and support made Prosser Creek Charter School a possibility.

On Aug. 19, 2003, Prosser Creek Charter School faced its long-awaited fear of closure. One year later, instead of recalling the events of despair, remember its life and positive contributions to the community.

The students who attended Prosser Creek Charter School were a mixed bag of characters, as with any other school. Highly motivated students, with some graduating at the age of 16, shared the same hacky sack circle as those who were less

inspired to complete assignments and prepare for assessments.

The students who did just what they had to and nothing more played in a band with those who always put forth their best

effort. Teenagers and small children alike took pride in their environment by creating a Zen garden and pond. The one common link that united all the students was the respect and value they held for their school.

It is important to give thanks by expressing appreciation and gratitude. Without sounding like a long-winded academy award acceptance speech, there are many people who deserve recognition.

First and foremost, thank you to the initial women who created Prosser Creek Charter School. Their creativity and passion for educating kids is what brought them together to build their dream. Right next to them in the line of thanks is the woman whose determination and perseverance kept Prosser Creek alive for as long as she was able to.

The principal of both the middle and high school deserves an appreciation of gratitude for his ability to maintain a positive learning environment through reasonable and fair methods of discipline and management by supporting his teachers and believing in the students.

Thank you to the elementary school principal for creating a safe and comfortable atmosphere that promoted learning, growth,

and positive experiences.

The administrators, faculty and staff took great care of the school with meticulous detail, making the ambiance of Prosser Creek Charter School friendly, warm, and welcoming.

Then there are the teachers. A unique group of charismatic educators dedicated themselves to educating the students who chose to attend Prosser Creek. The collaboration and opportunity to work with such an extraordinary group is priceless.

Last, but far from least, are the students and their parents. Their decisions to be a part of Prosser Creek Charter School, in addition to their support, dedication, and appreciation, are what made the program successful. Keep old experiences alive by remembering their positive moments and lessons they taught. Carry them onward through the new experiences and situations presented in life.

In society, people make choices regarding how to cope with situations. Despite its temporary scapegoat for anger and frustration, pointing fingers of blame can be useless and unnecessary. Accepting unwanted events provides an opportunity for learning, experiencing growth, and the allowance to move forward as a stronger person with more knowledge to share.

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