



Dear Parents & Guardians,

I'm thrilled to be reaching out to you the first time as Faculty Chair of the Waldorf School of Garden City. I have received a warm welcome from faculty, staff and PTA Chairs, and I have begun to dive into becoming more familiar with the School.

My daughter is experiencing her first East Coast summer at Camp Glen Brook, and now I know first-hand of the wonders of this special place. While she has been enjoying the enriched experience that beautiful land and staff have to offer, I have been equally enriched through individual meetings with our teachers. I've learned about their preparations for a new year and how I can support them in their work. The love our teachers have for their students and the curriculum brims to the top.

The staff has dedicated many hours this summer, and our buildings and grounds are abuzz with preparations! The finishing touches are being put on our newest Early Childhood classroom and – thanks to a generous gift from the Parent Association -- renovations to the Main Entrance restrooms are almost complete. Earlier this summer, new Smartboard technology was installed in the Library and two High School classrooms, and ten additional laptops have been added to our Student Computer Lab. On a very practical note, our parking circle has been sealed and restriped – just in time for the busses to come rolling in with the start of the new school year.

In other good news, I am happy to announce that the School has hired Janet Kane as Interim Lower School Chair for the 2018-19 school year. Many of you know Janet from her years of dedication and service to the school, mostly in the Early Childhood. Her background also includes Class Teacher training and experience, so we are most fortunate to have her while the search continues for a permanent LS Chair. She will be at the School on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

In my years in Waldorf education, I have learned that the stronger the bridge that spans from school to home, the deeper the student experience. I am committed to strengthening this bridge and invite you to join me. I will do my best to communicate clearly and regularly to you and I will foster clear communication from teachers. I ask that you strengthen our bridge by attending each class meeting up to date on School communication. Our common goal is to serve the students and we can only excel at this through working together. I welcome the opportunity for individual meetings. Please reach out to me if you are interested.

As you begin your preparations for the upcoming School year, your individual family account on MyBackPack includes links to all the necessary forms and information. Click the link below to log-in. Please don't hesitate to contact either [Kevin Padilla](#) or [Kathy Bossuk](#) if you have any questions about accessing your account. Expect a detailed back to school e-mail to arrive shortly.

MBP Log In

Lastly, and most importantly, thank you for sending your child to the Waldorf School of Garden City. I look forward to September when the halls are filled with exuberance, laughter, striving and success!

With warm regards,

Kelly O'Hagan

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