



# ST. ANDREW'S

## EPISCOPAL SCHOOL K-12

March 28, 2020

Dearest Waldorf School of Garden City Faculty & Staff,

I am sure this note finds you, like me, trying to navigate this whole new initiative known as 'Distance Learning', an undertaking in and of itself for most, but especially for those educated within the Rudolf Steiner philosophy and pedagogy.

When I was getting set to graduate from Waldorf, my then-counselor turned friend Roland, started my college recommendation letter by stating "Josh is the soul of Waldorf." While at the time, I thought this was merely a nice sales pitch intro for college admissions folks, and hadn't thought much about it since, until the other evening.

Even year's later, and as school administrator and coach for the past 15 years, I have lived the Waldorf way with my daily, and global approach to education, family and self-care.

Like me, you also may be having a tough time managing these new constrictions, please know that what you are doing is incredible work—this coming from a proud graduate from the BEST Waldorf School in the entire world.

While I was deemed as the aforementioned spirit, it only came about through the caring nature and education bestowed upon me while a member of the school community. From the heads of school to the daily teachers and all the way to the maintenance staff, in one way shape or form, instilled in me the spirit rather than me simply being it.

My hope with this letter is to share thanks to you all, while also serving as a validation for what you have done and will no doubt continue to do—especially in these less than standard nor usual times.

Although I may not know most of you personally, I do believe strongly that by virtue of being an employee of the WSGC, you are indeed a special person, and for that I remain extremely thankful to you on behalf of the current students/future alumni.

I look forward to once again viewing pictures of Fall Fairs, alumni events, main lesson books, and even the making of ice cream by the summer campers.

Please know that however you move forward these next few months, you will be instilling that same Waldorf spirit which I received back from the late 1990's onto/into each student, and for that no amount of proper gratitude can ever be shared.

With gratitude,

***Josh Blumenthal '99***