



The Walden School

Dear Walden School Community:

I am eager and excited, as well as deeply grateful and honored, to serve as the next head of school of The Walden School. I have enjoyed getting to know the members of the community I have met during the search process and I look forward to meeting many others soon. I am eager to continue to meet students, faculty, staff, and parents as I transition into my new role over the next several weeks before I officially begin on July 1.

Education has been much of my life's work and passion. The foundation of my educational philosophy is that every decision made begins with this question: *Is it in the best interests of the students?* Whether as a classroom teacher, athletic coach, or administrator, I am dedicated to ensuring all our students experience an excellent education in a supportive, challenging, and nurturing environment. That our students will be well-prepared for the world they will face when they leave The Walden School, ready to contribute to society in many positive and productive ways. This makes being at Walden all the more exciting because of the school's commitment to overall excellence and the Montessori educational philosophy. Focusing on a student's strengths emboldens and empowers them to seek out their true selves and become lifelong learners intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

To have this opportunity to continue the legacy of Mary C. LeFever is thrilling. I thank the Search Committee for their tireless work during this process. The amount of time, effort, and attention they provided is a testament to their love and passion for the school. The choice of a new head of school is always an in-depth process and I appreciate their commitment, kindness, collaboration, and perspectives. I am delighted to be joining the Walden community and returning to the area after five years in New York and New Jersey.

I look forward to meeting all of you and having you meet my wife, Caroline, and my daughter, Jacie (maybe one day, I'll even bring my dog Evie in for a visit!). Stay safe, stay diligent, and stay passionate!

In friendship,

Bob