



Dear Bay Farm Community,

On behalf of the Montessori Parents Association [MPA], I would like to welcome you to the 2016/2107 school year at Bay Farm Montessori Academy! Autumn is one of my favorite times of year – cooler days, fewer greenhead flies, and kids back in school! Our children are especially fortunate to be part of the Bay Farm Montessori community, where the dedicated staff creates a uniquely caring, supportive, and challenging environment for them. The 2016/17 school year promises to be an exciting one for our children and their families alike.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to once again serve as the Montessori Parents' Association (MPA) President this year. As you know, the goal of the MPA is to help the school administration and staff achieve their annual goals and to strengthen the school community. The MPA provides all of us with an opportunity to get involved in fund raising, social events, and other activities focused on enriching our children's learning experience at Bay Farm. By getting involved in the MPA, you can contribute greatly to the planning and execution of those activities, while also getting to know other members of the of the Bay Farm community. I can promise you that doing so will be both rewarding and fun!

There are so many reasons why I love Bay Farm. The Montessori environment has given our children, Sophia (12) and Finn (10), the opportunity to develop into their true selves. And I'm so thankful for our teachers who inspire our children to not only be amazing students, but also to be great friends and leaders.

Each year, it amazes me how dedicated and generous our parents are. Last year, we were able to sponsor enjoyable dances for our children, spoil our teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week, and provide them with dinners during their busiest time of the year. In previous years, we enhanced our performing arts program by underwriting the cost of a new stage curtain, and we funded a new climbing structure and swing set. With your generous donations to "*Fund the Need*" at last year's auction, we were able to purchase bleachers for the soccer field!

We are excited to introduce new opportunities for you to get to know other families this year. We will kick off the year with a *Welcome Back BBQ* on Sunday, September 11th – please join us for this fun and delicious event! The MPA will also hold Parent Socials throughout the year, as well as a few Family Fun Nights – so please come see old friends and make new ones, too!

So please, get involved in your children's education by joining our monthly meetings, help plan upcoming events and of course, by contributing to the Annual Fund Drive.

This year promises to be one of the best ever at Bay Farm and I look forward to seeing you at events throughout the year! Happy fall y'all!

Heather Barry

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Heather Barry".

MPA President

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