August 3, 2026

Dear New and Returning Lower School Families,

Welcome back to school and our wonderful Lower School!

We are excited to continue with your support of W+H School's culture of our deeply embedded Core Values, love for learning, diversity, a sense of wonder, and joy for the uniqueness of all children. My vision for our Lower School learners is for them to feel safe, encouraged, challenged, and inspired to be the best that they can be each and every day with many smiles.

One of my favorite quotes that represents my philosophy of children and learning is from George Couros, internationally known speaker and author.

"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."

I am really looking forward to seeing you and your kind, loving children soon as we build close relationships and partner together for your child.

Please be advised of important dates for your planning purposes.

- **Friday, August 14**
  - **LS Parent Partnership Conferences With Homeroom Teachers Sign Up**
    - 20-minute Homeroom Teachers Conferences schedule will be sent via Sign Up Genius Link from Ms. Kiara Cerda, Assistant to the Lower School, at kcerda@whschool.org.
- **Friday, August 28**
  - **LS Parent Partnership Conference With Homeroom Teachers Sign-Up Deadline**
    - Sign Up Genius Link closes at **8:30 am**
- **Tuesday, September 1**
  - **New Student and Parent Orientation**
    - **9:00 - 11:00 am**
    - PAC first and then homerooms to "Meet and Greet" with homeroom teachers
    - Specialist teachers will be in their classrooms to visit **after** meeting with homeroom teachers.
- **Wednesday, September 2**
  - **LS Parent Partnership Conferences with Homeroom Teachers**

        - **9:00 am - 3:00 pm**
        - 20-minute Conference
        - Free Encore childcare provided for conference time only.
        - Google Form to RSVP requesting childcare will be sent by Ms. Kiara Cerda at kcerda@whschool.org.
- **Thursday, September 3**
    - **LS Parent Partnership Conferences With Homeroom Teachers**
        - **9:00 am - 3:00 pm**
        - 20-minute Conference
        - Free Encore childcare provided for conference time only.
        - A Google Form to RSVP requesting childcare will be sent by Ms. Kiara Cerda at kcerda@whschool.org.
- **Friday, September 4 and Monday, September 7**
    - **School/Offices Closed for Labor Day Holiday**
- **Tuesday, September 8**
    - **First Day of School**
        - **8:00 am - 3:00 pm**
        - **Opening Day of School's 144th Convocation** - All parents invited to attend - **9:00 - 10:00 am** - Turf Field
        - **Welcome Back-to-School BBQ** - All families invited to attend - **5:30 - 7:30 pm** - Front Field of Lower School
- **Monday, September 21**
        - **School/Offices Closed - Yom Kippur Holiday**
- **Thursday, October 1**
    - **Lower School Back-to-School Night**
        - **6:00 - 8:00 pm**
        - Free Encore childcare provided for the evening.
        - A Google Form to RSVP requesting childcare will be sent by Ms. Kiara Cerda at kcerda@whschool.org.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer to the fullest, and thank you for enrolling your child this year! Please let us know if you have any questions. We are here for you, always!

Warm regards and gratitude,
Erin M. Leonard
Head of Lower School