

Beecher Road School



Marsha DeGennaro <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>

[External Email] Request for 3 MAG Teachers to be a part of the hiring process

1 message

Rachel Forbes <rachel.yf.forbes@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 24, 2024 at 1:00 PM

To: mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org

Cc: Analisa Sherman <asherma@woodbridgeps.org>, James Sapia <jsapia@woodbridgeps.org>, ctifel@woodbridgeps.org, vtencza@woodbridgeps.org, lpiascyk@woodbridgeps.org, lfrancese@woodbridgeps.org, sdelprete@woodbridgeps.org, jdahya@woodbridgeps.org, bhopkins@woodbridgeps.org, jhughes@woodbridgeps.org, slawrence@woodbridgeps.org, mstrambler@woodbridgeps.org, ewilliamson@woodbridgeps.org

Dear Woodbridge Board of Education,

(This is echoed in copy and paste form from Shary Parker, as I am showing absolute support and agreement for the same request as I, too, am a MAG parent).

I am a parent of a MAG student and am highly concerned with the proposed process for the replacement of one of the beloved and founding adult MAG teachers, Ms. Louise Golden. I am fairly new to Woodbridge, having chosen to move here specifically for the school system. The MAG program is unparalleled in public school systems not only statewide but nationwide, and is indeed a jewel in the Woodbridge crown of education. It provides an opportunity for students to learn in a nonconventional way, yet still be a part of the amazing Woodbridge school district. With the emphasis on pass-it-along teaching and MAG ancestry, not only is MAG helping to shape the current generation of learners, but they contributed significantly to the previous generation, and will continue to contribute to future generations of this community, helping to ensure the longevity of Woodbridge's excellence in education. The WBOE needs to recognize what they have in the MAG program and honor their values and expertise.

The core of the MAG program is working together, and with the lack of communication regarding Ms. Golden's replacement, I am extremely concerned that the WBOE and current administration do not understand or value what they have in the MAG program. Just as Woodbridge values equity, diversity, and inclusivity in the community, so too do they need to honor these values in the school. It needs to be recognized that the MAG program is different from the standard graded programs, and that hiring a new adult teacher for this program will indeed look different than hiring an educator for a different part of the school district. The adult MAG teachers work so closely together that ALL need to be included in the hiring process. You would not want to hire an additional principal or assistant principal without the input of the three current administrators. The same is true for MAG. For 32 years it has flourished. Despite a global pandemic, remote learning, changing security restrictions, and more, the MAG adult teachers have ALL worked TOGETHER to ensure the continuity and excellence of the MAG program, being true to its core values and most importantly continuing to produce highly educated, well rounded, amazing students who are eager to learn and support their community.

I urge the Woodbridge Board of Education to consider the uniqueness and value of the MAG program, and include ALL of the adult MAG educators in the decision to hire a new member of their closely knit team. Show our children equity in action by fully supporting a unique program that brings so much to this community.

Respectfully and appreciatively,
Rachel Forbes
Parent of MAG 2 student

--

Rachel Forbes
C: 203-641-0020