

.. SAN FRANCISCO ..  
**WALDORF**  
HIGH SCHOOL

September 11, 2009

Dear San Francisco Waldorf High School Families,

Welcome to the new school year 2009-2010. As we begin our third year here at 470 West Portal and our thirteenth year as a high school, we look forward to seeing you at sporting events, parent evenings, parent hot lunches, lectures, music performances, plays, eurythmy performances and student presentations!

As our high school has grown in breadth and depth over the years, we have strived to live up to the confidence you have in us. Improving our communication with parents and families is paramount in this regard. Among other ways of addressing this issue, we have more fully developed our Advisors Program. Advisors are faculty members who will follow your student's academic progress through their years here, and be available to your student as mentors who give individual support and guidance in the academic realm. More details about the advisors role can be found in the updated Student Handbook, now posted on the high school website.

We have also distributed some of the areas of leadership in the school amongst faculty members, which will allow for deeper engagement and more individualized attention to select groups internally and externally. For example, John Burket and a small committee of experienced faculty members handle faculty evaluations. A detailed list of faculty and staff responsibilities – letting you know who to contact in the event you have a question or concern in a particular area – is also available in the Student Handbook and will shortly be published online in a quick reference format.

I first joined this school community as a parent in 2000. In 2004, when my second child entered the high school I was fortunate to be hired to continue to develop our Outdoor Education Program. This year I take on the role of High School Faculty Chair. Having been a parent, teacher, and now administrator, I have seen the school blossom over time, and my commitment and passion for it deepens all the more.

Please feel free to call, e-mail, or stop by to discuss any questions or offer suggestions. As Rudolf Steiner asked, we continually strive to “receive them [the students] with reverence, educate them with love, and set them forth in freedom.” I am hopeful and enthused that together – school and parents – we can continue the work toward setting them forth in freedom.

We look forward to seeing you Wednesday September 16 at 7:00pm for our Back-to-School evening.

Sincerely

Ellie Capers Jenkins  
High School Faculty Chair  
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