

### Letter From Head of School Mike McGill



"How do we express ourselves authentically, remain true to bedrock values we hold dear, and nurture an activist mindset—but do so civilly, openly, generously? . . . it's precisely the work that Northwest School teachers embrace daily in their effort to graduate students who 'think and act with integrity, believing they have a positive impact on the world.'" [Read more](#) about what Mike is looking forward to in the 2017-18 school year.

### Letter From Upper School Director Chance Sims

"Certainly, the world is in a state of significant upheaval, but there is a lot more going on that should give us reason to be optimistic, to double down in our efforts to invest in and promote the ideas of a school that continues to serve as a place for serious people to create a unique educational experience." [Read more](#) about Chance's thoughts on the purpose of education.

### Letter From Middle School Director Sue Maul

"Middle school is a constant conversation. It is an intense moment of time that has so much to teach us all if we are intentional about living our values, and reflective about how choices and actions impact ourselves and how they impact the world." [Read more](#) for Sue's advice to Middle School students and parents as we start into the new year.

### Biographies of Incoming Faculty

We are excited to announce the new faculty joining us this year. Click [here](#) to learn a little bit more about our new hires!

### School Supplies List

Please click [here](#) to find out what materials your student will need by the first day of school.

### Important Parent Information Sources

There are plenty of ways to figure out what is going on at The Northwest School. Click [here](#) for a list of the best ways to keep informed about school activities and events.



## Opting In to Receive Emergency Text Messages



In the event of an emergency, the school will send you alerts via phone, email, and text message. If you want to receive the text message alert, you must first OPT IN. Click [here](#) for instructions on how to sign up.

## Health Information Letter

Our goal is to keep all students safe and healthy. Please click [here](#) for a letter from our school counselors, and please click [here](#) for important information on the school's allergy policy and other health-related guidelines and resources.

## Instructions for Accessing the Student/Parent Directory

The Northwest School Student/Parent Directory is available online through your [My Backpack](#) account and an app for your mobile device. For information on how to access the Student/Parent Directory, please click [here](#).

## Accessing the Parent Association and Student/Parent Handbooks

The Parent Association and Student/Parent Handbooks both live on My Backpack. They are revised each year to reflect changes and updates. Please be sure to read each thoroughly. To access either handbook, click [here](#).

## Back-to-School Potluck Flyer

During the month of September, we like to host back-to-school potlucks! Because there are so many people involved, we've tried to make it easier for you to decide what to bring based off your last name. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Buddy Family Program Letter and Information Sheet

A critical part of The Northwest School philosophy is fostering a global perspective in our students. The Buddy Family Program offers an opportunity for domestic Northwest students and their families to establish a relationship with our international students outside the normal school day. For more information about the program, please read [this letter](#). If you would like to sign up, please fill out [this form](#).



## Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteering at Northwest are a deeply valued part of our community. We recognize volunteerism as a way that many families make significant contributions to the school. We hope everyone can become involved and connect with the school and with one another.

We're eager to know which volunteer opportunities interest you. Please complete and submit this [form](#) by Sept. 18, 2017.

## Sign Up for Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Grandparents and special friends of our students are an important part of our community. Each spring, we invite students' grandparents and special friends to come to the school and experience a day in the life of a Northwest student. Please click [here](#) and fill out the form so we can mail a formal invitation.

## Other Important Resources

- [Daily Schedule](#)
- [Trimester Highlights Calendar](#)
- [How to Review Your Account Details Online](#)
- [Faculty Contact List](#)
- [Spirit Wear Flyer](#)

