

April 23, 2018

To The Common School Community,

As I enter as your school leader for the coming year I want to share with you the philosophy statement I submitted to the Board of Trustees during my interview process. I hope it gives you at least a sense of where my personal and professional energy resides as I come on board to work with and for The Common School community.

*I believe all children can, want to, and deserve to learn with the goal of becoming happy, thoughtful, creative and informed participants in our global community. I am driven to ensure that children find their way to this goal by discovering their passions, capitalizing on their individual strengths and instilling in them an inquisitive mind and a love of learning.*

*I believe teachers and other child-serving adults can, want to and deserve to be the best champions of learning not only for the children but for themselves. I am driven to ensure that teachers and other child-serving adults receive the guidance, professional development and respect they need by creating opportunities for building trust and supportive professional relationships.*

*I believe that parents/guardians can, want to and deserve to be the best and most respected caretakers of their children. I am driven to build clear lines of communication and positive, trusting relationships with the parent/guardian community that will support such advocacy and deepen their connection to the school and each other.*

*Finally, I believe that in order to receive a solid, comprehensive education a school and its community must seek to understand how the issues of equity, race, bias and social justice impact and influence daily life. I am driven to find ways to broaden that understanding and to approach these issues as opportunities for personal and professional growth within the school community.*

Respectfully,

Paul H. Wiley