

Dear Cathedral Hill Montessori School Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I notify you all of my resignation as the Head of School at the end of this school year.

I'm sad to be leaving a place that has meant so much to me. This was my first experience in leadership and in building something that felt meaningful. The Montessori method, along with my children, inspired me to create this school. Now, seven years later, CHMS is an established school with a solid community of children and teachers, and I feel that it is time to pass the torch to a new leader. This school is my family, and I will be forever connected to this community for that reason.

Even though I am primarily stepping down to be relieved of the responsibilities of school leadership and to be refocused on my family, I know I have made a difference in the lives of our community and their children, just as they have irrevocably changed mine. This work is the most rewarding career I have ever had. That is why I am sad to leave a profession and environment that I love.

As unique as my personal situation might be—founder, head of school, parent and landlord—I am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve my community in each of these ways, and I will continue to be committed to this school going forward. I've met the most committed people here. I am forever changed by my brilliant and compassionate colleagues and the incredible children I've had the pleasure of observing and interacting with over the years.

With my resignation, I hope to inspire positive change in a school I cherish. As Benjamin Franklin once said: "All mankind is divided into three classes: Those that are immovable, those that are movable, and those that move." I want to be someone who moves and makes things happen. I will always be the founder of CHMS—planting the seeds and watching it grow—but now it is time to find a new gardener to allow it thrive.

Sincerely,

*Whitney Blessing*