

Dear Salmonberry families,

I am very excited for the culminating events we have planned at school (via Zoom, of course) for next week, and have been trying to keep laser-focused on finishing this year beautifully, as always.

At the same time, of course, I have been in frequent dialogue with Salmonberry staff, Board, parents, doctors, epidemiologists, professional organizations, colleagues and policy-makers, regarding next fall and how Salmonberry School might evolve to adjust to the changing landscape in regards to Covid-19.

**2020-21 will be Salmonberry's 20th year since founding.** It should be a year to celebrate. And I am confident that it will be just that! At this moment, however, there is a ton of work to do to get ready, and I am itching to roll up my sleeves and get to it!

A critically important part of the process this summer **is going to involve you.** My goals are to A) keep you all well-informed about news as it unfolds, B) listen deeply to and integrate your input, desires and priorities as we are making program decisions, and C) keep lines of communication wide open throughout the summer. Towards these goals, I want to implement a several-pronged approach to staying connected as a community over the summer. Here are some of my current plans:

1. **OFFICE HOURS:** I will have **open Office Hours on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 each week beginning Tuesday, June 9.** I will be in my Zoom Room, and, with no appointment necessary, I'd love to have you stop by to chat, ask questions, offer feedback, communicate your needs, etc. I hope you'll bring a cup of coffee and join me there! ***Paul's Zoom room: PMI: 754-024-9652 Password (if requested): 151489***

2. **"SALMONBERRY SUMMER NEWS" EMAILS & WEB POSTS:** I know we all get inundated by email volume, but I think this is a time when emails will be an important vehicle to facilitate communication. **I will send out an email to you at least twice in June, twice in July and twice in August with the subject line: "Salmonberry Summer News.** It will contain any news or updates I might have as well as a schedule of upcoming meetings or events to be aware of. If it is important to you to stay informed, and I hope it is, ***please read these emails.*** I will also post the contents of each email on the Community Portal Page of the Salmonberry website.

**3. PARENT ADVISORY MEETINGS:** For those who have the time and energy for a little extra commitment, I would like to invite you to join a new branch of the school community, the Salmonberry Parent Advisory. *This body will not set school policy, which will continue to be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees,* but it will be a new way to help me and the school faculty by listening deeply, thinking creatively and participating actively with me and members of the teaching team as we craft the best possible approach to meeting kids' needs, while prioritizing safety above all else and living within whatever parameters and guidelines evolve over the summer. **We will meet on JUNE 15, JULY 15 and AUGUST 15 at 10:00.** If you let me know in advance that you will be participating, I can send you documents ahead of these meetings so you can be prepared for a more effective discussion. I am very excited at the prospect of collaborating with more of you, sharing my thoughts, and receiving your wise counsel.

**4. ALL SCHOOL MEETINGS:** I have not yet set dates for these, but I am imagining, particularly towards the end of the summer, we are likely to host one or more all school meetings in an effort to make everyone aware of the plans and protocols as we head into a fall re-opening.

And as always, I am available by email, text, phone, etc. If office hours don't align with your schedule, but you'd like to talk, just let me know and we will schedule a time.

Thank you so much for continuing to join me in caring for Salmonberry School. I am very optimistic about our 20th year. We have learned a lot this spring, and I know our amazing teachers will be ready to hit the ground running next year. It remains a sincere honor and privilege to do this work with you for our children. I will see most of you on Zoom, Friday June 5 at 10:00 for some end-of-year closing rituals.

Much love,

Paul

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