



ARBORLAND MONTESSORI INFANT - 8TH GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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May 16, 2023

My Dearest Arborland Family,

I hope you all enjoyed Mother's Day weekend with your loved ones! This was the very first year that I celebrated Mother's Day without my mom with me physically since she passed away in March at 95 years old. Although it hurts to not be able to hold her, kiss her, and tell her, "I love you, Mom", I understand the Circle of Life, and it's my turn to be at the top of the family tree.

As we are celebrating Arborland's 35th anniversary, I am reminded that what started as a mother's search for quality education for her own children turned into Arborland Montessori Children's Academy. The power of a mother's love is magical!

During the past 35 years, education has been impacted by technological advances, changes in government mandated standards, and recently by a worldwide pandemic. Through it all, we have adjusted as necessary and kept our focus on offering quality education.

Arborland is and will always be my baby, in addition to my three adult daughters. I have been the principal since the inception of Arborland and throughout its subsequent growth. I have surrounded myself with the best, educated and committed teachers. With their help, we were able to navigate all the challenges that came our way. I am truly grateful for their dedication.

With continued help and support from the community and you, the parents, a whole generation of young minds have been nourished and prepared for life. I am grateful for all your support, and very proud of what we have achieved.

When we describe a mother's love, we often use unconditional because a mother always wants the best for her children. It's always about the children, and not her. After 35 years of guiding the success of Arborland, I feel the time is right to introduce fresh, new leadership for our school to achieve new successes in an ever changing world. In order for Arborland to continue for another 35 years, I will be stepping down as Principal and am happy to present to you Ms. Veronica, who will assume all the duties and responsibilities of Principal of Arborland. This change is for the best interest of Arborland and will take effect on June 1, 2023.

Ms. Veronica has worked closely with me for the past five years. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Cornell University, her California teaching credential and a Master Degree in Education from UCLA, a Master Degree in Business Administration from USC, and the Montessori Teaching Credential from UCI. She is very knowledgeable and well-qualified. She will bring a fresh approach and renewed leadership to Arborland. Ms. Veronica has a deep respect and understanding of the Montessori approach to education. Coupled with this, she has further knowledge of all the new technology available for the education of the future. Additionally, just like you, Ms. Veronica's three young children are attending Arborland. Just like every parent at Arborland, Ms. Veronica has a vested interest in the education of all the young minds at Arborland. This makes her imminently suited to lead Arborland into the next 35 years and beyond. During her five years assisting me, her calm, professional approach has earned the respect and confidence of the entire faculty. I feel fortunate to have such a suitable replacement for principal for my beloved Arborland!

Please note: I am not retiring, nor giving up my association with Arborland. Please don't be surprised to see me everyday. I will be available for consulting, advising and offering help in any specific areas of work as requested by our new principal, Ms. Veronica. Please consult Ms. Veronica for all day-to-day functions of school.

Please join me in offering our new principal a warm welcome. I trust you will offer Ms. Veronica your full support and Arborland will continue to thrive under new leadership.

With sincere gratitude,

Sueling Chen, Ed.D. MBA
Principal