

Choosing a School Because of its Mission

Today the Friends School Haverford Admissions Committee met for the first time to review collectively the application files that we have each been busy reading over the past several weeks. As I read the responses to the question of why families chose to apply to Friends School Haverford, I was struck by the depth of understanding of our mission and purpose that was reflected in the answers.

Families wrote that they were seeking a school environment that supported their own values; that they responded to the warmth and nurture that they felt immediately upon their arrival; that they were impressed by the caliber of the faculty and staff; that they had confidence that the academic, social, and emotional hopes they held for their child could be met here; that being a “peacemaker” was a wonderful image for their four year old; and that service projects were important. Others wrote that they knew Friends School Haverford graduates and were impressed by their experience and preparation.

Like many schools, word of mouth is our best advertising method. It did not surprise me to see that new applicants learned about Friends School Haverford through their association with current and former teachers, current families, and past parents and alumni of the School. We welcome your help in spreading the word about Friends School Haverford and, in the process, building a web of community and connection with the past and the future.

The community that forms at Friends School Haverford each year is remarkable for its diversity, dedication, and delight in the experience of educating children in their early years of schooling. It is reassuring that the mission of the School, grounded in the Quaker belief in “that of God in each person,” comes across clearly to those who are just discovering Friends School Haverford, and for those whose appreciation for that mission is renewed each year as their children progress through the school. It is a joy to participate in this work with you.

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