

**From:** Karen Salisbury [mailto:karen.salisbury@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 28, 2016 8:18 AM  
**To:** PCD <pcd@bainbridgewa.gov>  
**Cc:** mgoss@madronaschool.org  
**Subject:** Madrona School at Lowery Farm, Madison Avenue North

Dear Josh,

I am a neighbor of the Lowery Farm property, and am writing in support of the proposed school campus on Madison Avenue North. The southwest corner of my property is at the northeast corner of the proposed site.

My husband and I raised our sons on Bainbridge and we have been island residents for 23 years. We have seen much growth and change, and welcome the use of this beautiful hillside for the Waldorf school. We are both teachers. I have some history with Waldorf education, and can't imagine a better fit for this land and our neighborhood.

While many large lots are being subdivided, eliminating wildlife habitat that most islanders value, this one will retain its dignity. The philosophy of the school itself embodies the best of our stewardship goals - a main tenet of a Waldorf education is the notion that outdoors is the classroom. There is no better place for children to learn about their place in the world than playing in it, outside. Children become the caretakers of the gardens, the meadow, the trees, their indoor spaces, and themselves. They grow up with deep connections to their home, which in turn lead to stewardship behaviors that benefit all of us.

This careful attention to connecting with place and to one another is evident in the care I see being taken by the board and the staff at the school to create a plan which honors the aesthetic and sustainable building aspirations of all of us. From lighting to parking and traffic flow to solar power, it is evident that the school community will be a vibrant, compassionate and responsive neighbor.

I look forward to seeing this dream unfold in a welcoming neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Karen Salisbury

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