



Teaching the way children learn best!

April 7, 2023

Subject: Important News from Mulberry's Board of Trustees

Dear Mulberry community,

We write with painful news. After much deliberation, we have determined that Mulberry does not have the financial resources to remain open for the 2023-24 school year. As a result, and with deep sadness, we must announce that Mulberry will close at the end of the current school year.

A number of factors have led to this wrenching decision. The main one is that our lease from the Union School District is simply too expensive to be sustained by our enrollment, which has been declining since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Neither our effort to renegotiate the lease nor our search for partners to help bolster our finances has been successful.

We are so grateful that Mulberry has always been more than a school. It is a community. And we will work through this most difficult transition as a community. For those families who will wish to transfer to another local independent school for the 2023-24 school year, we are working with other schools to create an easy enrollment path. Please see the attached "Transition Path to Other Schools" for more information. In the meantime, our administration is available to assist in every way possible. We are also implementing plans to support our staff and faculty through their professional transitions. And we can assure you that all 2023-24 enrollment deposits will be returned in full.

We know you have questions and we hope the attached FAQ will help answer many of them. We will also be scheduling both Zoom and in-person information sessions in the coming days, where you can meet with us directly to voice your questions and concerns. The first of these will be tonight at 7:00. For those of you who cannot attend, another opportunity will be available on Monday, April 17 at 5:00. Zoom invitations will be sent in separate emails. We will also plan in-person question and answer sessions with the Board during the week of April 17.



Teaching the way children learn best!

For nearly 60 years, Mulberry School has been a place of magic and wonder. We have fostered social-emotional intelligence and a love of learning that have started countless students on a path of self-fulfillment and contribution to a better world. Over the years, we have faced many challenges and have always managed to pick ourselves up and live to teach another day. But now we have reached a point where the challenges have mounted and we see no path forward.

This is a heartbreaking moment for all of us. We are committed to supporting you, and each other, as we move through it together.

Sincerely,

The Mulberry Board of Trustees

Nicole Loventhal  
Chair

Cheri Goodman  
Vice-Chair  
Alumni parent

Malika Adam  
Finance Trustee

Michelle Coddling  
Secretary  
Parent

Tee Coletti-Kaiser  
Development Chair  
Parent

Fatosh Hacigumus  
Trustee

Bill Pfahnl  
Trustee  
Alumni parent

Timothy Wood  
Trustee  
Parent