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March 12th, 2021

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State Board of Education Voted YES!

It is official, after waiting several hours for our agenda item to be heard at yesterday's NH DOE Board Meeting, we received an enthusiastic yes to our request and we are now allowed to expand our grades to 25 per class AND add Kindergarten! What does this mean? It means we were able to enroll many more applicants from the lengthy waitlists for specific grades and we are now able to plan for two cohorts of Kindergarten of 12 and 13 students respectively.

It is very exciting to see our School Community forming in so many ways and the energy of new beginnings bubbling up just like the spring weather we've all been enjoying this week.

Apply Now for Kindergarten  
and we are still enrolling for 3rd, 6th, 8th, and 9th Grades

Apply Now

These larger class sizes will allow students at Gathering Waters to have a rich social experience of a classroom community that is greater than the sum of its parts. In Waldorf Education robust classes are preferred to enable children to experience many different elements working together to support the whole. Classroom teachers will be supported by specialized academic support teachers who will work within the class and with smaller groups to allow for more individualized attention in math and language arts. Classes will also split into smaller groups for subjects such as handwork, music and art to allow for more individualized attention. A full circle of faculty will surround and support each class and individual student.

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## Introducing Our Lead Administrator!

### Luke Goodwin

Luke Goodwin is a Waldorf School "lifer" who has been involved with Waldorf education for over 40 years. After graduating with a Masters of Education from Antioch University, New England, he served as a class teacher at the Ashwood Waldorf School in Rockport, Maine and the Cape Ann Waldorf School in Beverly, MA. After class teaching for 10 years he moved into Administration and has had the privilege to serve as the Administrative Director at the Chicago Waldorf School for the last 13 years. In addition to his school leadership work, Luke has served as a school mentor for the Waldorf Schools of the Great Lakes & Ontario region and taught administration and governance courses at the Waldorf Teachers Institute in Chicago. He shares that he is most inspired by Waldorf education's social mission, *"we are an education of deep and authentic relationships and one that holds dear to an inspiring social mission. It is with these core values that I am honored to guide a new initiative with the founding of the Gathering Waters Chartered Public School. In many ways, joining Gathering Waters is a homecoming of sorts. I attended the Monadnock Waldorf School myself as a young child in the school's earliest pioneering days when it was known as Tomte Gubben. My wife Kate and three daughters, Josie, Willa and Lulu are excited to join the Gathering Waters community as well."* In his free time, Luke enjoys coaching a Varsity baseball team and is greatly looking forward to returning to New England to listen to his beloved Red Sox on WEEI.

A BIG New England Welcome to Luke and his family!

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# SAVE THE DATES

## Upcoming School Events

- **May 4th 6:30pm- All School Zoom: Q & A with Luke and Faculty**
- **May 5th 6:30pm - 7:30pm - K thru 5th Grade Zoom**  
**7:30pm - 8:30pm - 6th thru 9th Grade Zoom**

### Looking for Housing

We have several newly hired faculty who will be relocating from other parts of the country and we are hoping to help make their transition as smooth as possible. If you know of any long-term rentals in the area please contact:

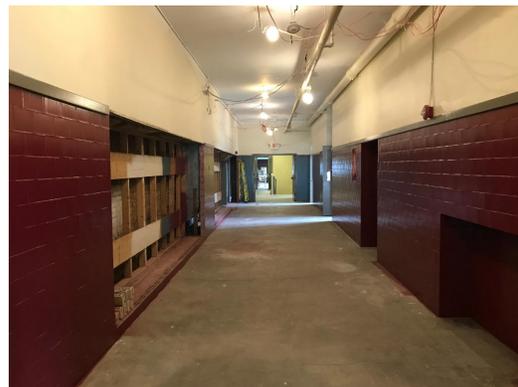
[marcyschepker1@gmail.com](mailto:marcyschepker1@gmail.com)



### Calling all Volunteers!



There is so much work to be done before we can open our doors for the very first time next August. Our Middle School location is currently under construction but soon it will be ready for us to think about painting walls, decorating classrooms, and planning for furniture. We are also very close to



We are on the hunt for eager volunteers! Are you willing to help paint classrooms? Move furniture? Or maybe you would like to volunteer during the school year? Maybe you're a parent who wants to help us launch a sports team? Or a social club after school? We want to hear from you! Please fill out our

securing our elementary grades location and look forward to officially announcing it.

volunteer survey so that we know what you're interested in and when you're available.

[Volunteer Survey](#)

## Job Postings

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We are still hiring for our core faculty positions.

Check the website for more details and updates

[Employment Opportunities](#)



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