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## Thank You's

I wanted to say enormous thank you's to **Billy Mann** and **Sagebrush Solar**, **Drew Nosworthy** and **Bigwood Landscaping**, and **Dan Freeman** for all of the work they did (and are doing) in the greenhouse. Their expertise, donation of materials and services, and gift of time and talent are, quite simply, why the greenhouse looks as great as it does.

Thanks also to **Dennis O'Brien** for the deal he gave us on soil.

To **Emilie duPont** for her work with the Middle School students.

And to **Zoey Olbum** who has been doing a portion of her Senior Project for Community School with us. It has been wonderful to have her energy and presence at school.

Dear Friends and Families,

A lot has happened since I last wrote. Most wonderfully is that we had a really great "admissions season," and we are now excited to welcome 18 new students and their families for next year. We are both encouraged and humbled by the response we have had, and look forward to what we get to build together in the coming months and years.



In the meantime, we have a lot to do in the next five weeks (yikes!). Soil is in the greenhouse, tomatoes are planted, and the fish should arrive in May. Everyone is working hard in days filled with snippets of Spanish, questions about Math long terms, and discussing what might be the best song to accompany a scene in the play (see below for more about the upcoming Middle School performance).

In short, we are chugging along. The following blurbs provide a glimpse of the various goings on around campus and beyond.

As always, it continues to be a pleasure to get to work and play with your kids.

Harry

## "An American Dream"

### The upcoming Middle School Play

Mark your calendars- Monday, May 23 the Middle School play will go on. The Middle Schoolers have been hard at work writing, editing, rewriting, and editing "An American Dream," their original production about the History of the United States based on their personal family stories. Under the tutelage of Emilie duPont, the play is transforming from a variety of disparate ideas into reality. The play will be held at The Liberty Theater. Doors open at 5:30, with a brief cocktail and snack time, followed by curtains up at 6:00. We hope you will join us.



## Some Farewells

### Good Bye to Barge and Alice

Well, as often happens, happy news is mixed with a measure of sad news. It turns out, people are leaving. This is never easy, especially when they make up two thirds of the original teaching team of the school. In an effort to say as many thanks as I can, I am sending out notes, writing emails, and generally letting people know that Barge and Alice are moving on. Alice is headed to Berkeley, and while Barge talks about retiring, I know better. Both have worked tremendous magic to help The Sage School get to where it is, and it is with considerable "thank yous" that I say farewell.



## Does this work?

### Weird fonts and others ways to learn better

There is a Goethe quotation that always resonated with me: "We make our kids' lives harder by making them too easy." Several recent articles hit on this idea in different ways. [This first one](#) covers everything from font style (therefore the heading of this blurb) to the benefits (or detriments) of being given a really detailed outline, while [the second one](#) talks about something the author calls "productive frustration." This last article really stuck with me as I think it is one of the clearest and most succinct arguments I have ever read about the potential pitfalls of instant information. And I also like really big snakes.



## Summer School

### On Boating, Bears, and Basking in the American West

The Sage School is jumping into the summer educational scene with two offerings this year: "An American Safari" (a trip into the Greater Yellowstone area), and "Ridges and Rivers" (an exploration of the Sawtooths). Both outings will be run by Chris McAvoy, and are open to Middle School students. If you are interested and want more information, please contact Chris at [chris@thesageschool.org](mailto:chris@thesageschool.org), or call him at 788-0120.



And that is where we are for now. As always, it's nice to let you know what is going on at school, and I look forward to staying in touch.

Harry