



Mountain Oak School

8th Grade 2018-2019

Dear Eighth Grade families,

The force and friction. The push and pull. I am talking about simple machines but I may as well be talking about your beloved blossoming young man or woman, right? I love teaching the Waldorf curriculum. How much it embodies the life of an adolescent and offers a framework for them to navigate through these years!

The year is full of exploration from the Renaissance to our bodies' systems. Eighth grade is an exciting time of self-discovery as well. In perspective drawing, students learn to step outside to see more clearly. In our "Wish, Wonder, and Surprise" block, your eighth grader will "both look back to the childhood they left behind and forward to where a new world is dawning." I am so honored to be their teacher.

In my second year here at Mountain Oak School, my crazy love of middle schoolers continues to grow. I taught English language development for a year and two seventh grade humanities classes in Santa Monica, California before leaving for China where I ventured in teaching English for 5 years while studying Mandarin. Upon my return to the states, I met and married my husband and we worked Outdoor Education Camps here in Prescott while growing our family (Banner, age 6, Anden, age 4, Ryder, age 3, and Davy Joy, age 2). Living right up the road from Mountain Oak now, it has become home.

All School Orientation Night August 21st 6:00pm. Please make sure you attend.

I hope your summer was refreshing and full of adventure. I look forward to working with each of you to support and encourage, teach and guide, love and direct each one of your children.

With gratitude,

Sandra Maki
8th Grade Teacher
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"Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education."

— Rudolf Steiner