

November 8, 2018

To: The Advent School's Board of Trustees and Advisors

With regrets for missing tonight's gathering, I send warm wishes and a brief reflection on the founding of Advent's Early Childhood Program and its commitment to the Reggio Emilia approach.

Months of collaborative conversations between administrators, faculty, and trustees starting in fall of 2003, led to the Board's approval of the Early Childhood Center at its 2004 Annual Meeting. With an opening just 3 months later, there was much to be done in a hurry. Creating marketing materials and enrolling the program were just the beginning.

Yet coming from a place of consensus and with valuable input from the Board, Advisory Board, and colleagues, we launched the ECC that fall. The energy this program generated spread to teachers throughout the grades and to the wider community. All of us were learners as the ECC thrived, and we initiated Advent's annual Reggio Collaborative. The ECC has played a significant role in the School's increased enrollment in the years that followed.

For the opportunity to launch this program, and for the Board's far-reaching support, I continue to be grateful. Not only has the Reggio approach informed teaching at Advent school-wide for more than a decade, it has impacted my own work with more than 500 underserved children and artists in public schools in mid-coast Maine.

I send heartfelt appreciation to the Board and to the community,

Nancy

Nancy Harris Frohlich
Founding Director
LEAPS of IMAGINATION