

Dear Lycée Community,

After five years of dedication to Lycée Français as Chief Academic Officer, I am honored to begin a new journey and serve in the role of Chief Executive Officer. As I look with pride at our accomplishments over the past few years, I am enthusiastic about what the future has in store for us. Today, we are a full-fledged pre-K4 to 8th grade program and in one year we will be opening our high school. We are poised and ready to take the next big step in the evolution of our school. Our goal is to transform the lives of our students through the lens of multicultural perspectives, and grow the next generations of scholars, leaders, innovators, and global citizens.

In the short time since the LFNO Board's CEO appointment, much has been done to confidently grow our leadership structure. We have recruited two highly-qualified, campus-specific Principals to lead our teams and support our students and families. New instructional staff to sustain our growth have also been hired and trained. Grants to support our academic programs have been written and/or funded. We recently received the good news that our 6th grade has been accredited by the French Ministry of Education, and we will continue to work towards accreditation of our new grades. We will offer high school credit courses to middle school students, and, after a successful pilot program this summer, we will expand our partnership with TeachNOLA to offer academic support to students at different grade levels during the summer. I am particularly looking forward to making our Priestley building a reality, to give our high school a home and fulfill our mission.

We will continue to strive for a culture of inclusion and support, centered around innovation, creativity, and transparent communication. Our curriculum captures our students' imagination and provides them with a foundation of skills, knowledge, qualities of character, and habits of mind they need to succeed in life. We work to create a space of love, justice, and equity so that students can become socially conscious stewards of their community.

I would like to thank the supportive staff, dedicated teachers, and parents who have so constructively contributed to Lycée's success. I owe much of the credit for my selection as CEO to the team effort, hard work, support, and encouragement of administrators, faculty, staff, parents, and students. Thank you for your notes, emails, and expressions of support for which I am truly grateful as we embark on this next chapter. There is much to celebrate, but there is still much work ahead. We are on the cusp of becoming the nation's first open enrollment French Pre-K – 12th public school. This is indeed a time of boundless enthusiasm and limitless excitement, and I look forward to learning from all of you, working alongside you, and, together, writing the next great chapter of Lycée Français' history.

I wish everyone a happy and restful summer and look forward to seeing you all in August.

Marina

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marina", with a stylized flourish at the end.