

Alumni Update - June 2023

Amazing and impactful things are happening here at Evergreen! It is good to be back in the classrooms, and feeling free of restrictions, as we emerge from these last few years of uncertainty. I want to highlight a few of the highs from the past year:

The 8th graders researched, planned, and hosted a City Council Candidates' Forum, which the candidates called the most thoughtful, well put together forum they attended in the 2022 election season. Candidates also commented on how surprising it was that the students had obviously studied their platforms and crafted relevant and thoughtful questions which allowed them to speak to their passions.

Our Nutrition Program is growing! Breakfast and lunch will now be easily accessible, affordable, and subsidized for those who qualify for free meal programs. While our dream of renovating existing storage into a fully functional kitchen fell short, we are pivoting and will be performing all the same functions from the vantage of a (very large) food truck! Tres Trendy.

2023 is the year Evergreen goes Solar! Last month the Board of Directors approved a plan to install an extensive solar panel system on the main building. In addition to meeting one of Evergreen's core values: to foster environmental stewardship, this move will also help alleviate some of our operating costs in years to come.

Things will look a little different inside the school as well. Dr. Susan announced her retirement after 16 years as Executive Director. Jen Watkins will become the new executive director in July. Jen is a veteran Evergreener, having served here for 9 1/2 years as Academic Support Teacher and the past 6 1/2 years as Associate Director for grades 5-8.

The coming school year, 2023-2024, marks Evergreen's 25th Anniversary! We have some exciting celebrations going on throughout the year, and we want alum to be a part of these! Look for updates on our <u>Facebook</u> page or <u>Instagram</u> pages, and on <u>LinkedIn</u>. We recently started a <u>LinkedIn Alumni Group</u> for alum to network with each other! We hope you'll join the group to catch up with old classmates, find other Evergreen alum who work in complementary fields, or be there to advise rising alum as they begin their careers. We invite you to hike back up the Oakes Trail; volunteer to belay; help Marin in the garden; read a book with kindergarten; talk to 8th graders about high school, the college application process, or your current career; or join Jo in the gym. Reconnect!

Here are a few other ideas:

- join the development, facilities, equity, or other school committees
- ask your employer if they offer matching donations
- consider making a personal gift to help fund the solar or nutrition program
- like, follow, subscribe to keep up with the goings on at Evergreen

Come back! We always love having our alum stop by to say hi, check out how things have changed (or stayed the same), and give us updates on life's new adventures.

Let me know if you have any questions, or want more information!

Dan

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