

- Above all, I wish to thank the School Committee for the opportunity to serve the Town these last 10 years in what has truly been a labor of love. The appointment has [sic] given me an opportunity to give back, utilizing my background in education to strengthen the ties between deCordova and Lincoln's schools in fulfillment of our mission "to create a community of lifelong learners through the engagement of the whole community."

- I am extremely pleased with Dan Elias as your new appointee, not only because of the multitude of skills and energy he brings, but because it gives me a sense of coming full circle. He was my student years ago when he was in high school in Boston. Dan and I will be meeting with the superintendent to talk about past goals and accomplishments however—most important—what needs to be accomplished further.

- Looking back, I am pleased by the overall increase in contact and quality of interactions between deCordova and our schools over these years. In your packets, which Julie Bernson, the Deputy Director for Learning and Engagement prepared, she has put a summary of the last year. One of the things mentioned is the meeting we had with the four art teachers in January to ask, as always, what can deCordova do for you—what I see as the paramount issue for us? This annual meeting is essential to keep the lines of communication open. It's usually held in the fall and I am sure it will go back to that date, but this year weather kept getting in the way. One of the best ideas from this year's meeting was a Hanscom Family Day at deCordova with tours and art activities to be held this spring. Also in the spring, the student art show that we have had at the Museum will be mounted here at Hartwell instead. More art will be displayed than can be accommodated at the deCordova site, The Square, which has a different use now. Today two of our art teachers, Pam DiBiase and Donna Lubin, participated in an EDCO professional development day at the museum focusing on the Orly Genger work using recycled line from lobstermen. Lincoln teachers receive discounted fees for programs like this. Also, a few years ago we also made it possible for all teachers to receive the guide training for each new exhibit from the curators. The Andy Goldsworthy Snow House installation, slated to begin in 2015, will offer many collaborative opportunities for the schools and DeCordova.

- I'm particularly happy about the way a few years back we were able to simplify access to deCordova especially for METCO and Hanscom families by instituting online passes and better publicity for everyone about current exhibitions and how families might approach them. My goal throughout has been to establish this sort of bridge. We need more of them. There is still much work to be done.

- In closing, I wish to give specific thanks to the four art teachers: Donna Lubin and Chris Gentel (an L-S grad by the way) on Base and Pam DiBiase and Colleen Pearce at the Lincoln campus. It has been a joy to work with them. They are amazing and Dan will have a great time getting to know these bright, committed individuals. DeCordova and the town will be saying good-bye to director Dennis Kois at the end of April and it has been wonderful to have the chance to work with Dennis, Paul Master-Karnik before him, all the trustees and most especially the staff involved in the Education department over these ten years. And I cannot say enough about what a pleasure it has been to work with the superintendent. Becke, [sic] my thanks—and admiration. My thanks to all,

- Questions?

Katherine Hall Page