

President and Head of Educational Programs, Mike Haykin

September 14, 2017

Dear Yellow Wood Families,

My name is Mike Haykin and I am excited to join Yellow Wood Academy in an educational leadership role as President and Head of Educational Programs.

Over the past two decades I have had the opportunity to see the caring work and dedication of the YWA faculty through my experiences referring students and families to Yellow Wood for support. For the past seven years, I have served on the Yellow Wood Academy board of directors. And now, I look forward to getting to know students and parents, as well as begin working with staff and faculty to improve opportunities for students, parents and faculty at the school.

I come to Yellow Wood on a day-to-day basis with great enthusiasm and a commitment to five primary goals:

1. Continue to enhance and improve one to one programs and services.
2. Build small group classes for academics.
3. Build educational resources for young adults that have graduated from high school and who are interested in getting assistance to help define a personal path and navigate the complexities that come with being an adult.
4. Build a strong parent community. Parenting is complicated. We can all be more effective when we collaborate.
5. Continue to strengthen our support for teachers and staff at Yellow Wood.

Please keep an eye out for future communications that provide more detail about progress toward each of these goals.

I believe that educators, parents, administrators and students work best together when there is a clear understanding of the common values, philosophy, knowledge, skills, language and processes that drive decision making and action at Yellow Wood. I will be sending out articles to both share the perspectives that I bring to my new role and that articulate the Yellow Wood educational philosophy. [Click here](#) for the first of these articles titled "Fostering Independence, Together".

I look forward to getting to know you as we move through the school year together.

Sincerely,



Mike Haykin

President and Head of Educational Programs