## Statement from Haldane Faculty Association Jan. 13, 2022

Haldane is a family. Within these walls, generations of students have been educated and cared for. Elementary school trips to apple orchards, food and clothing drives for families in need, meticulously planned educational trips to Washington D.C. Haldane teachers spend countless paid *and unpaid* hours making sure our students receive access to a Blue Ribbon education filled with experiences designed to inspire and educate the whole child. During an ongoing pandemic, Haldane teachers continue to go above and beyond for our students — which often means putting our own families second.

We are still navigating a pandemic. The district has acknowledged the hard work of administrators during this time with thanks and stipends, yet has failed to respect the professionalism and dedication of Haldane teachers. And while we know we are supported by the community at large, we are now at impasse for the second year in a row. We are professionals who deserve a swiftly negotiated contract with appropriate wage increases and no reduction in benefits. We advocate for our students every day, are continually asked to do more with less, usually at the expense of our own emotional wellbeing, and we deliver.

Not settling a contract is an insult to us — the professionals on the frontlines trying to keep students safe, healthy, and educated in these trying times. We are negotiating in good faith and deserve the same — for the good of our teachers, and our students, and for the sake of our Haldane community.