

Hi Robyn,

Processing my decision about retirement and teaching what will likely be my last year in public schools has been rather bittersweet for me and here come the tears yet again, even as I write this email.

Yes. I do plan to retire at the completion of this school year. I have notified the division already in two separate ways: first, on the questionnaire regarding our intentions about Woodbrook several months ago, and more recently in an email conversation with John McQuilkin in HR. John and I have had several back and forth conversations, he has answered some questions for me, and he is aware of my intentions. We are working on matching our calendars in the next two weeks to actually sit down and cover some paperwork. It is official in my heart, but I suppose from HR's perspective will be "official" when I complete the paperwork.

As a side note, my recertification is due in another year or two and although I don't plan to teach in public schools, I feel like I should keep that current for now...for whatever path God might lead me down. When I got my most recent "recertification points update", it did not list the student teaching assignment I had from last year nor the practicum for Nadia, which both provide significant points toward recertification. Just wanted to give you a head's up that I'm working on this.

Enjoy your evening! Anita

Anita Phillips
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May 15, 2018

Lisa Molinaro, Principal
Woodbrook Elementary School
100 Woodbrook Drive
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Dear Lisa,

I am writing to notify you of my decision to retire effective July 1, 2018. After long and thoughtful deliberation, I have finally made the decision to leave the teaching profession.

The decision to leave was not any easy one. Being at Woodbrook has been the best part of my career. I have grown so much, both personally and professionally, a lot of which I contribute to your extraordinary leadership. I greatly appreciate the opportunities you have given me. You are not only a respected colleague but a dear friend as well. I truly love Woodbrook – the staff, the students, the community. I will miss all of it – but I know I will be back in some capacity – whether as a volunteer, visitor, or working part time!

Please know I will be available should you need help with the transitions next year. I'm only a phone call away!

I am looking forward to spending more time with my family, staying up late, and sleeping in. After 37 years, it's time.

My best always,

Donna Phillips