

Good Evening Mrs. Straub and Mrs. Showerda,

Thank you for including me in the parent walk. What a great opportunity this would be for any parent.

I do want to tell you that the experience was wonderful. The first thing I noticed was the bright atmosphere - students were moving and alert. There was no congregating or loitering like I remember in my old school days. The classroom was not lined up with seating front to back in alphabetical order like traditional classrooms.

The classes were fantastic. I could clearly see that Maloney's learning structure involved both social and academic supports. There is no reason a student cannot learn here. The classrooms were very engaging - students were able to work in groups and lean on each other, instead of having the teacher as the main resource. To me this is perfect for socialization and helps students to be ready to enter the workforce. Teamwork, and figuring things out with a team, is important! I'm sure it engages students when they are able to use their mobile devices or the school assigned device. When Maloney's B.Y.O.D. (Bring Your Own Device) initiative first came out, I was at first skeptical but it is obvious that it truly works. What a way to engage students to learn!

There was not a single student left out. Each was engaged. I loved seeing special needs students working together in the same classes as their counterparts. The opportunities for students to earn credits by putting in extra studies during spare time if they desire (which we were able to observe) was fabulous. I wish I had the same opportunities when I was a student.

There is no reason for a student not to succeed when everything they need is at Maloney. I was also impressed with the personalized learning- it seemed to be available in every subject. I witnessed teachers helping students who were interested in pursuing a direction they felt strongly about (eg: an entrepreneurial experience for a business student).

My wish would be for every parent to experience what you were able to share with us at the Parent Walk.

Maloney is a great example to other schools. Keep up the great work and thank you for taking great care of my student.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity!

Lynette Valentine