



## **Join the New Parent Mentor Program!**

### **Guidelines for Mentor Families 2022-23**

Do you remember how it felt to be a new parent the first week of school? For many, it was a daunting experience. Now that you've been at Barnard for a while, you can help other new parents get acquainted with our school. You can become a mentor!

#### **What's the mentor program all about?**

The Barnard PTA provides a mentor program to match new, incoming parents with Barnard parents that have been at the school for one or more years. This program provides new parents with a contact whom they can ask questions about school events and general practices.

#### **How does it work?**

Once you sign up, the PTA will match you with an incoming family over the summer. These families have requested to be part of the mentor program as well. Your role is to connect with them via email, text messages and/or phone over the summer. Tell them about yourself and your experience at Barnard. Tell them why you chose Barnard, your favorite thing about the school, and what it is like to be the parent of a Mandarin immersion student.

#### **What happens next?**

Try to meet the new family in person at a Barnard event, either at the kindergarten orientation, summer play date, back-to-school dine-out, or during drop-off or pick-up one day. Then, check-up on them on a monthly basis through the end of the calendar year (December 31). The rest is up to the incoming family. They will connect with you if/when they have questions or concerns about life at Barnard. (They may not connect with you at all.)

#### **How do I provide support to my matched family?**

Your role as a mentor is to help guide your incoming family through everyday life at Barnard. Keep it positive and fun. Your role is not to advise them on academic, disciplinary, or personal issues. Refer them to their teacher or administration for any inquiries that reach beyond general experiences. If they have a question or need help with something outside your expertise or knowledge area, then ask the PTA for help ([barnardpta@gmail.com](mailto:barnardpta@gmail.com)).

#### **How do I sign up?**

If you would like to participate, please register online by May 31 ([www.barnardfriendsandfamily.org/Be-A-Mentor](http://www.barnardfriendsandfamily.org/Be-A-Mentor)). We will connect you with your incoming family mid-summer. We will also ask you to complete a survey at the end of the program so that we may improve it for the following year. You can also contact Lee Glick ([leeglick@yahoo.com](mailto:leeglick@yahoo.com)) if you have further questions.

#### **Is there anything else?**

Yes! Have fun! Thank you for participating!