

Mike & Megan Duffley
214 Court Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

August 27, 2018

Mrs. Angela Malone
Director, Crayon College at Plymouth
109 South Meadow Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

Dear Angela,

I'm writing this to you on behalf of Megan and myself and we hope you will share this with everyone at Crayon College.

I can still vividly remember the first time I dropped Molly off to Crayon College. It was late August 2008 and she was 5 months old. Megan and I were first time parents, and like many first-time parents we were getting used to figuring out our new routine with a baby, balancing work and life, and in need of childcare for the first time. Back then Crayon College was in the lower floor of a building on Nick's Rock Road. I recall dropping Molly off for the first time, walking up the stairs with tears in my eyes and a lump in my throat as I left, and barely keeping it together until I got in my car, where I cried as I drove off to work.

Had we done enough research? Was this the right place for Molly? Are we being good parents? Should one of us be home with Molly instead of putting her in daycare? Can we trust these people? These thoughts and more were swirling in my head as I drove away that day.

Of course, I came to learn that this WAS the right place for Molly. We WERE being good parents. We COULD trust these people. In fact, 'these people' came to become the people who helped us raise Molly for the first 5 years of her life. 'These people' became our babysitters. 'These people' got to know our extended family, and over time we realized that 'these people' really became part of our extended family when it came to entrusting our kids' wellbeing, development, safety and more. We came to realize how fortunate we had been to have found a place that was all these things and more to our family.

Our experience with Molly was so positive that when Annabel arrived in 2013 it didn't take any research or thought as to whether Annabel would be attending Crayon College. I didn't have any of the same questions in my head. In fact, I KNEW how good this would be for Annabel after seeing how beneficial it was for Molly. Annabel started in March of 2013 at only 2 months old, and both of our girls attended together until Molly went into first grade in September of that year.

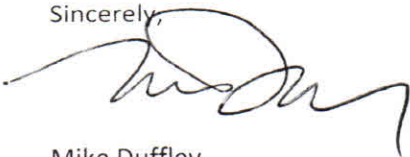
To list all of the memories would take too long, but some of the things that stick out in my head, which I'll always be thankful for, around the experience our family has had with Crayon College include the time Molly came home counting to 10 in Spanish, to my surprise; Annabel's Molly coming home and writing her name and surprising Megan, since Megan hadn't taught her; the 4th of July parade one year where everyone was overheating in their yellow t-shirts as they marched by our house on the parade route; the support we got as Papa, Megan's father, fought and eventually passed away from Leukemia;

the Father's Day artwork that I've gotten over the past 10 years; the interest everyone took in the wellbeing of our dog Rocky when he went missing for 4 days just before Christmas 2017; the many times we've dropped one of the kids off and one of the teachers picked them up and wiped their tears and waved to me out the window as I waved and blew kisses and drove off; the art shows and the pride on the kids' faces; the countless times I've picked up Annabel and watched her get a big hug, and an 'I love you' from one of the teachers, and I felt how genuine it was; and most recently, the graduation ceremony that Annabel took part in just a couple months ago, where it hit me that this was coming to an end, and once again I got choked up and emotional walking out the door, but for very different reasons.

So many of you have played such important roles in the lives of both of our daughters and our family. Some of you have been our babysitters and have taken care of our kids and our dog and our home. Crayon College and all of you have left a such a lasting impression on us. We are so grateful for all that we have been so lucky to enjoy over the past 10 years. What started as picking a daycare so that we could both work, became so much more than we could have ever hoped for.

On behalf of Megan, Molly, Annabel (and Rocky...) thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Crayon College really has meant the world to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Duffley", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Duffley