

Martha Hausman

As a parent of two daughters in Newton Public Schools—a freshman at South and a 6th grader at Oak Hill—I am grateful for our wonderful teachers, principals, and special needs providers.

I recently served on the Oak Hill School Council, where our team created a School Improvement Plan and launched a school-wide social-emotional climate survey. We also focused on Growth Mindset, helping teachers bring the research into their classrooms and introducing the concept to the parent community. My work there led to the NSHS School Council inviting me to help develop the Growth Mindset workshop for parents which took place a few weeks ago.

I am eager to continue that work, as well as the other fascinating issues facing South today: late start time, hate speech, homework, and other issues found in this year's School Council minutes. We live in a fast-changing and diverse world. Given my experience on the Oak Hill School Council, and working with the South School Council, I know the important role it plays and I am ready to hit the ground running.

Professionally, I am a lawyer, mediator and negotiator with both corporate and non-profit leadership experience, including corporate law, Director of Development for a non-profit, project management, and working with organizational boards. I hold a BA from Vassar College and a law degree from Georgetown University.

Currently, I run my own business successfully representing and coaching individuals in their employment contract negotiations, as well as in work-life balance and conflict prevention. My approach is collaborative: I think most challenges – including conflict resolution – are really puzzles and I see my role as facilitating the best, most sustainable and positive solutions.