

July 15, 2016

Dear New International Student:

Welcome to Abington Friends School! Our names are Renie Campbell, Katherine Donnard, and Maryellen Troyer. We oversee all aspects of international student life and work closely with teachers of international students as they learn in our Upper School. Katherine and Maryellen, your English Language Learning (ELL) teachers, will work with you as you navigate international student life and continue to learn English. Maryellen will also teach you in a course for new international students titled, *School Culture at Abington Friends School*. Renie oversees support of all students in the school. When you get to Abington Friends School, we will be here to welcome you and help you in your adjustment to your new school.

To start the year, you will join us and other teachers and administrators in a required orientation for new international students for four days starting on Monday, August 29th and ending on Thursday, September 1st from 8:30am – 3:00 pm each day. On these days, you will participate with current AFS students in workshops and activities that will help you learn your way around the school, get to know people in essential roles, meet and get to know other students your age, and share your background and experiences with them as they share theirs with you. More information about AFS, including the International Student Support and ELL Program, will be shared with you during this orientation. **In addition, you will be take course placement tests and receive your class schedule for this school year. Breakfast and lunch will be provided each day. Please bring your laptop to each day of the orientation.**

All 9th grade students also have a 9th grade orientation on Tuesday, September 6th. Wednesday, September 7th is the first regular day of school for all students. On Thursday and Friday, September 8th and 9th, all students will attend grade-level retreats; you will receive information from your Grade Dean about these days.

We are all eagerly looking forward to meeting you and to having an opportunity to get to know you! Please email us at rcampbell@abingtonfriends.net, kdonnard@abingtonfriends.net, and mtroyer@abingtonfriends.net with any questions or concerns about the orientation program or the beginning of the school year.

Sincerely,

Renie Campbell
Director of Student Support

Katherine Donnard
International Student
Support Specialist and
ELL Teacher

Maryellen Troyer
International Student
Support Specialist and
ELL Teacher