As Director of Curriculum and Student Support at Sequoyah, my work involves ongoing assessment and development of the scope and sequence of curriculum schoolwide. One of the things I like best about my position is working closely with students, and their families and teachers. Success at school is grounded within a close home-school partnership. To reinforce that partnership, we strive to create a shared understanding of how teaching and learning works school-wide, and how it may work for each student, in each of their classrooms, underlying their social, emotional, and academic development over time. We schedule breakfasts with parents in their first-year, when their children are in fourth grade, and again when they reach eighth grade, to stay connected about their child’s learning and experience.

In addition to personal meetings, Sequoyah provides lots of opportunities for parents to gain insight into our program: parent-education workshops focused on math and reading, an evening’s introduction to social and emotional learning, and monthly informal curriculum chats with me where we can delve into topics that are on your mind. For these and other parent-education sessions, we call upon our own Sequoyah staff of human development and social-emotional specialists, and we bring in experts in various fields, to help us address emerging topics like the use of technology and social media, girls’ or boys’ development, and strategies to manage conflict and stress.

This is not say that everything is scheduled. There are so many informal points during the day or year that Sequoyah teachers and administrators look for a conversation – a cup of coffee in the morning on the patio as children are dropped off before class begins, or those moments after class is dismissed when you may drop by with a question.

When your child enrolls at Sequoyah, we do our best to get to know you too, and to support you. We encourage parents to reach out to me and other members of our staff and faculty with questions.

Emily Singer
Director of Curriculum and Student Support