



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Maeve Taylor, School Administrator

Phone: (518) 963-7385

E-mail: [admin@lakesideschoolinessex.org](mailto:admin@lakesideschoolinessex.org)

#### **Expansion of Farm and Forest Day Care Program at *Lakeside School at Black Kettle Farm***

ESSEX, NY — Lakeside School was granted a program expansion license, by the NY State Office of Child and Family Services this week, to offer its Farm and Forest Sprouts Day Care program to more children. Lakeside School is now offering enrollment for up to 12 children between the ages of one and four in its renovated school house on Black Kettle Farm, 10 minutes from the town of Essex. With two attentive teachers, friendly chickens, horses, and goats, flourishing gardens, and the natural wonders of the nearby forest, the program offers a chance for young children to develop their minds and bodies in a nurturing environment. In addition, Sprouts is now available year-round, Monday through Friday, from 8:15am to 5pm.

Sprouts Lead Teacher, Gina Minessale, and new Assistant, Jade Sayward, are excited to offer their unique program to more local children for year-round care. The program features adventures in a natural play yard, orchard, garden, and barn yard with chickens and goats. The teachers lead the children through a familiar rhythm each day, with snacks, outdoor and indoor play time, nap, chores, singing, reading, and home made meals with ingredients from local organic farms. There are currently a few remaining spots open in the program for the 2017-18 school year, beginning Monday, September 11.

The Lakeside Board is pleased to announce a large increase in Tuition Assistance available for this school year. Lakeside is able to grant this assistance with huge thanks to our supporters, The Adirondack Foundation, The Essex Community Fund, The Kelsey Trust, the Nancy Johnson Remembrance Fund, the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club, The Eddy Foundation, and all of our individual and business supporters both local and around the country! The Board strives to make Lakeside School accessible to all families. Space is also still available in Lakeside School's Farm and Forest Preschool/Kindergarten program for ages 3.5 to 6. To learn more about our programs for the upcoming school year visit [www.lakesideschoolinessex.org](http://www.lakesideschoolinessex.org) or call the School Administrator, Maeve Taylor, at (518) 963-7385.