

## Ten Minute T(ea) with Ms. Marjorie Young

*Interview conducted by Roopa Venkatraman  
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Q) How would you characterize the relationship between students and faculty at Deerfield?

A) I've been here for four years, and I've noticed a lot of close relationships, and I think that's because our relationships with students are multifaceted. We can be their advisor, their teacher, their coach, and we can be their dorm resident. I think it gives us an opportunity to see students from different perspectives throughout the course of the day. We can see them playing on the field, in a play performing, in the dorm. It's really nice to be able to interact with students in so many different ways.

Q) Have you seen the dynamic of that relationship change over the course of your time here?

A) For me, it's changed because the first year, you're trying to figure it out. This is my fourth year, and I feel more comfortable and confident in those relationships with students. I think the first year I was really timid, and I was trying to figure out what it really meant to be a dorm resident. So for me, it's changed. I can only speak for myself, but from what I've observed, I appreciate that relationship more, and I've gotten more comfortable in each of those roles.

Q) Do you think that relationship plays an important role in the Deerfield experience?

A) Absolutely. I'm thinking about my relationship with people at sit-down. I'm not really great with names, so this year, I decided I was going to try to learn everyone's name, starting with my sit-down. When I see them, I say their name and try to make a connection with them, and I think that's very helpful. I do think it makes Deerfield special, and it builds and promotes the community we are trying to live in. I haven't worked at a boarding school before. I worked at Princeton University before, and I had good relationships with students, but they weren't as strong as the relationships I have here.

Q) Does Deerfield help promote student-teacher relationships?

A) I would say so. I would say it's really interesting because throughout the course of the day, I interact with many students in meetings or at lunch, and I go to the games. I think there are a lot of ways that we facilitate that, even if you are not a classroom teacher. Even though I'm not teaching, I still feel the bond that adults and students have.