

**Mindy Beltramo** has been involved in education since 1987 when she first began her career with early learners. She obtained her Master of Education degree from Antioch University focusing on early learners and specifically the Reggio Emilia Approach.

In 2008, after reading Richard Louv's book, *Last Child in the Woods*, Mindy embarked on a journey that would change her life. Realizing that children were becoming less and less connected to the outdoor world, she coordinated the complete redesign of the schoolyard at her public school, helping children grow inside...out. Awarded NH Environmental Educator Of the Year in 2009, she co-authored DIG, an integrated, experiential, and developmentally appropriate science curriculum inviting students to discover, investigate, and grow using the outdoors as a classroom. Mindy also co-founded Naturally Rooted, LLC, a landscape design firm specializing in creating nature-based outdoor learning spaces for children.

When not at school, Mindy lives a "hands on" outdoor life in Canterbury; always learning with her husband as they ride their tandem bicycle, work with their Alaskan Huskies, and garden! She and her husband have two amazing adult children. She sits on the UNH Cooperative Extension Advisory Board, is involved in the Canterbury community through the Farmers Market, Town Fair, and Economic Development committees.

Mindy is honored to have the support of a visionary Board of Directors and to have the Canterbury Shaker Village be home to The Dewey School. It is an incredibly inspiring learning environment, inside and out; a place where children are understood as individuals and provided the time and opportunity to develop intellectual curiosity, self worth, and communications skills.

#### Professional Credentials/Affiliations

Master of Education, Antioch University  
NH Certification:1811

NAREA (North American Reggio Emilia Alliance)  
ERAFANS (Eastern Region Association of Forest and Nature Schools)  
NAEYC (National Association for Education of Young Children)

*"Education is a social process; education is growth; education is not preparation for life, but is life itself." ~John Dewey*