

October 6, 2017

Dear Family and Friends of NDA:

On behalf of the Notre Dame Academy Board of Trustees, it is with great pleasure that we announce Mrs. Kathryn Woodson Barr has been unanimously selected by the Board to serve as NDA's next Head of School. Over the last several months, I have led the Permanent Head of School Search Committee comprised of Board of Trustee Members, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Parents, Alumnae, Faculty, and Staff. This week the Committee's recommendation to appoint Mrs. Barr as the next Permanent Head of School for NDA was brought to the Board of Trustees and the Board voted to accept the recommendation.

The appointment of Mrs. Barr marks the end of a thorough search. The Search Committee was appointed by the NDA Board of Trustees last summer, and was assisted by Carney Sandoe, an experienced national educational search firm. Over the last few months, Carney Sandoe and the Search Committee gathered input from the Board and greater Notre Dame community to identify the qualities needed in our next leader. After interviewing and reviewing materials from dozens of applicants, Carney Sandoe presented the top candidates to the Search Committee. In late September, the Search Committee interviewed four very qualified semi-finalist candidates in person and then discussed feedback. Based on the discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend Mrs. Barr to the NDA Board of Trustees. That recommendation was accepted by the Board on October 2nd, 2017.

Those of you who had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Barr during her term of interim Head of School know that she is a bright, thoughtful, authentic, engaging leader with strong communication skills. Her personal and professional experiences demonstrate her exceptional commitment to continuing the strong educational tradition at NDA Worcester as well as ensuring the seven Hallmarks that beautifully express the values of a Notre Dame Learning Community are upheld. The Board is confident and enthusiastic about Mrs. Barr's ability to honor our past and also to move us forward as a leader in progressive, diverse and joyful education.

On behalf of the Search Committee, I thank the NDA community for your prayers during our journey. As an alumna, parent and Board of Trustees member I am very excited for the future of NDA with Mrs. Barr as our new Permanent Head of School.

Warmest regards,

*Lisa*

Lisa Mancini

Chair, NDA Worcester Permanent Head of School Search Committee

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