

September 27, 2017

Dear Members of the St. Peter's School Community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are very pleased to announce that Matthew T. Evans, our Assistant Head of School, has been selected to be the next Head of St. Peter's School, effective July 1, 2018.

As many of you know, Matt is an experienced educator who has worked at several very well-regarded independent schools. Since joining the St. Peter's community in 2013, Matt has helped lead the academic and extracurricular program and has worked closely on the hiring and support of our superb faculty. Matt's skills, experience, deep knowledge of and passion for the St. Peter's community made him the unanimous choice of the Board.

To be sure, the selection process described below moved more quickly than we expected. Once Matt expressed his interest in being considered for the position, the Board recognized that he was a strong internal candidate. And Matt was forthright with us that while he was most interested in the Head of School position at St. Peter's, he was also seeking leadership positions at other schools for 2018. Nevertheless, we believed it was important to undertake a national search. We engaged our consultants, Peter Philip and Burke Zalosh, from the search firm of Carney, Sandoe & Associates. Peter and Burke worked closely with the co-chairs of the Search Committee, James Lavino and Mary Sales, to launch a national search designed to identify several candidates from whom we expected to select the new Head of School later this fall.

During their two-day site visit to St. Peter's, the consultants solicited information from multiple sources to understand the qualities the community believed were needed in the next Head of School. They met with many members of the St. Peter's community, including Shawn Kelly, Matt, faculty, staff, parents and students. In addition, they obtained feedback from an Advisory Committee made up of alumni, parents, parents of alumni, and members of the faculty and staff. And many members of the community completed an on-line survey to inform our process.

The community was open and candid with Peter and Burke during the site visit, which helped their assessment of the key attributes needed by our next Head of School. They quickly appreciated the strength of our program, our traditions, and, especially, the quality of our faculty and staff. They noted the progress our school has made over the past several years under Shawn Kelly's leadership and they recognized the bright promise of St. Peter's future.

The results of the site visit and survey reflected remarkably broad support for Matt among all SPS constituencies. Based on their experience, and sharing with us background information about the national pool of potential candidates who were seeking similar positions, our consultants provided their perspective that Matt was the best possible and best prepared person to be St. Peter's next Head.

## ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

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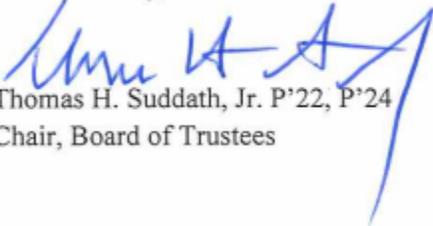
[st-peters-school.org](http://st-peters-school.org)

As our search was proceeding, Matt became the top finalist in another Head of School search. As a result, Peter and Burke recommended that we accelerate the process and interview Matt earlier than planned, and we agreed to do so.

After interviewing Matt for several hours, the Board had a careful discussion about Matt's experience and skills, his passion for St. Peter's, the qualities needed for the next Head of School, the compelling data provided by the survey, and the feedback from multiple constituencies during the site visit. The Board then voted enthusiastically and unanimously to appoint Matt as St. Peter's next Head of School, effective July 1, 2018.

We hope that the entire community of St. Peter's School will join us in congratulating Matt on his appointment. We are very fortunate to find the right leader for St. Peter's future in our midst, and we are thrilled that Matt has agreed to accept this role. He and Shawn Kelly will work together to plan and effect a seamless transition. In the meantime, we hope that you will reach out to Matt with grateful anticipation for the leadership he will bring to St. Peter's in the years ahead.

Most sincerely,



Thomas H. Suddath, Jr. P'22, P'24  
Chair, Board of Trustees