

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Dear Dutchess Day School Community,

We are delighted to announce the Board of Trustees, acting upon the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee, voted last night to appoint Nancy Hathaway as Dutchess Day School's tenth Head of School. As Acting Head of School, Nancy has been an inspiring and decisive leader, successfully restoring stability, confidence and optimism to our School and bringing clarity and focus to our most important issues.

Several weeks ago, the Search Committee learned of Nancy's interest in becoming a candidate for the permanent position. The Committee reviewed her application in light of the consultants' extensive discussions with parents, faculty, staff, Trustees, community leaders and students. Finding a nearly perfect match between the criteria established by the Committee and Nancy's qualifications, the Committee decided, with the Board's approval, to pursue her candidacy without delay and to launch a formal assessment and interview process. Nancy brought professionalism, enthusiasm, candor and humor to all phases of this rigorous process. The Search Committee ultimately voted to recommend her to the Board for immediate consideration as Head of School and to terminate the Head search process, both decisions unequivocally supported by the consultants.

As many of you know, Nancy brings to Dutchess Day a wealth of distinguished academic and managerial experiences. A graduate of Smith College with a Bachelors degree in Economics, she earned her Master's in History from Western Connecticut State University and obtained her teaching Certificate from Vassar College. She worked for 15 years at Bankers Trust Company in New York City, developing outstanding financial and managerial skills. In the academic field, she has held positions at Greenwich Country Day School, Indian Mountain School, Millbrook High School and most recently at Dutchess Day, teaching Math, Astronomy and History and coaching girls' basketball and lacrosse.

Nancy's relationship with Dutchess Day School began over twenty years ago when, as a parent of two graduates, Bradley ('96) and Christopher ('98), she actively volunteered on the Parent's Association and served for nine years on the Dutchess Day Board, three of those years as Treasurer.

Nancy exemplifies the qualities valued most highly at Dutchess Day of strong character, academic excellence and impeccable integrity. These qualities, combined with her proven dedication and commitment to the School and its core beliefs, make her the ideal person to lead our School at this time.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we'd like to thank the Dutchess Day community for its participation in and support of this important process and for the thoughtful insights and observations shared with the consultants, all of which ultimately guided the Board to its decision. We are also deeply grateful to our 10-member Search Committee of current and former Board members and faculty, who worked tirelessly under the expert and astute guidance of Gregory Floyd & Associates, in assisting us to successfully complete our most important charge of selecting the School's next Head.

We hope you will join us in thanking Nancy for so enthusiastically taking on the Acting Head position this summer and for her outstanding leadership so far, in congratulating her on her appointment as our next Head of School and in wishing her all the best at Dutchess Day.

Warmest regards,

Sarah Stack
President, Board of Trustees

John Allen
Co-Chair, Search Committee

Sue Lamprecht
Co-Chair, Search Committee

