



Planning for Bennett's Future: Leadership Transition through 2026-2027

After seven years of serving as an administrator at Bennett Day School, I have decided that now is the right time for me to begin a thoughtful transition from my leadership of the school.

This decision comes after much reflection. I am incredibly proud of the journey we have shared and the strength of the community we have built together. Over the last seven years, we have worked to grow a solid and stable foundation for Bennett for years to come—including doubling our enrollment and faculty, and expanding our physical campus.

We have also stood together through the most challenging of times, from the pandemic to the loss of cherished community members as well.

Leading the school through this period of growth has been both deeply rewarding and demanding, requiring personal sacrifice along the way. As I began to reflect on the next chapter, it was important to me that any transition be approached thoughtfully and deliberately in a way that prioritizes the school's continued success and honors the community and mission I care so deeply about.

Because I love Bennett, a goal for me is to ensure there is continuity in leadership. To that end, our Board and I have collaborated on a transition plan that will be smooth and that extends over the next year-and-a-half through June 2027. This approach prioritizes the long-term stability of our community.

To identify a new leader who will help guide Bennett through its next chapter, we have engaged Carney, Sandoe & Associates, a premier national search firm serving private schools. As part of their work, there will be a site visit to campus, surveys, and other opportunities for this community to inform the search. More information will be coming soon about these next steps. Our goal is to have our new Head of School identified before the end of the current 2025-2026 school year and to be effective for 2026-2027.

While I will remain Head of School through the end of the 2025-2026 school year, I am fully committed to Bennett throughout the entire 2026-2027 school year to serve as a Senior Advisor. In this role, I will work closely with our school community and a new leader to effectively onboard them, share the historical 'ins and outs' of our school, and ensure the 'Bennett Why' remains at the heart of everything we do. This spring is not a goodbye, but a time to look forward.

As I often say, Bennett is truly "one of one," and it's been built with an eye toward what's next. The entire community feels a deep sense of responsibility to ensure our students are supported and prepared for the world ahead. It's important to me that my successor steps into this role ready to honor what makes Bennett special and to build thoughtfully on that foundation—together with our faculty, students, and families.

For the remainder of this year, our focus remains exactly where it should be: on our students and the daily joy of learning together. Our faculty and families are very much at the heart of this school, and our dedication and partnership ensure that our mission remains as vibrant as ever for our students throughout this transition.

I wanted to share this news directly with the community that means so much to me, and I look forward to the journey ahead through next year and to supporting Bennett's continued success and stability in my new role.

Sincerely,

Jackie Miller, Head of School