



THE Providence Country Day SCHOOL

December 12, 2018

Dear Faculty, Parents, Alumni, and Friends,

We are pleased to announce that Kevin Folan, Head of Hilltop Country Day School, Sparta, NJ, has accepted the invitation of the Board of Trustees to succeed Vince Watchorn as the Head of Providence Country Day School effective July 1, 2019.

Beginning in October, the Search Committee, chaired by Stephen Marsella, worked with search consultant, Deirdre Ling of Educators' Collaborative, and reviewed the credentials of more than 36 candidates from all parts of the country. The Committee then identified six individuals for in-person interviews on November 16-17. Subsequently, two finalists and spouses visited the campus for comprehensive two-day interviews in early December. On December 10, the Search Committee presented Kevin Folan as its nominee to the Board of Trustees to serve as the next Head of School. The Trustees unanimously approved this recommendation.

Mr. Folan has spent the past fifteen years in education. First appointed as a teacher, coach and dorm parent at the Hyde School in Maine in 2003, he was promoted to Dean of Students in 2006 and, ultimately, to Assistant Head and Executive Director of Enrollment Management in 2013, a position in which he served until his departure in 2017 when he left to become the Head of Hilltop Country Day School. Receiving his A.B. in Government and Legal Studies and History from Bowdoin College in 2003, Mr. Folan completed an M.B.A. with a concentration in Finance and Marketing from the University of Connecticut in 2013.

During his time at Hilltop Country Day School Kevin and his team increased enrollment by 3% and tuition revenue by 12% while improving student retention by 8%. In his first year as Head of School, the Annual Fund quintupled from the previous fiscal year. Securing the largest gift in the Hilltop's 50-year history enabled the Board to restore the School's contribution to a pension match for faculty and staff that had been eliminated ten years ago. Kevin recruited the first cohort of international students to expand diversity and global awareness. In addition to creating strategic local partnerships to increase the School's presence, community engagement and generating alternative revenue streams, Kevin designed and launched the Mountain Creek-Hilltop Ski Academy with a local ski resort to attract a broader student base, differentiate programs and increase the School's visibility.

"I am humbled and honored to have been chosen to lead Providence Country Day School. Rachel and I have long admired PCD from afar and are simply ecstatic about the opportunity to join this vibrant community as it prepares for its centennial celebration. Throughout my career I have loved working with students and families at the intersection of academic achievement and character development. It is clear that my vision aligns seamlessly with PCD's mission. My recent visit confirmed that Providence is a city rich with culture and diversity and that PCD is at the epicenter of developing engaged, thoughtful leaders. I am excited at the prospect of becoming a part of Providence Country Day School where community and inclusivity are palpable."

Active in the community during his time at Hyde School, Kevin continues his civic involvement in his current position by serving on the March of Dimes Executive Leadership Team of Sussex County.

After an exhaustive national search, all the members of the Search Committee could not be more pleased that Kevin Folan has accepted our offer to serve as the next Head of School of PCD. Kevin and his family will undoubtedly be a wonderful addition to our Knight community and we look forward to working with him as the school now turns its eyes towards the Centennial Celebration in 2023.

The selection of the Head of School is one of the greatest responsibilities of trusteeship, and all of us in the PCD family can be proud not only that Kevin Folan has accepted the appointment, but also that the scope of the search was so extensive and the qualities of the interested candidates so outstanding. We are delighted with the outcome and look forward to welcoming Kevin, his wife, Rachel, and their three children, Quinn (7), Seamus (6), and Keegan (4) to the school community. We are also confident that each of you will, in your own way, extend a warm welcome to our new Head of School and his family.

We give special thanks to our fellow members of the Search Committee, Paula McNamara, Michele Mennucci, Joanna Saltonstall, and Patrick McQuade '06 who partnered with us and who devoted countless hours and great care to the search process to ensure its successful outcome.

Sincerely,



John H. Mullen, '02
President, Board of Trustees



Stephen H. Marsella, '85
Search Committee Chair