## inspiring independent schools 2020 HEADS





**Tom Cook** is a professor in the department of philosophy and religion at Rollins College. His own degrees are from Johns Hopkins and Vanderbilt. He is the recipient of several local and national teaching awards, and over the years he has held guest professorships at Williams College and at universities in Germany, Turkey, and India. His scholarship has focused on the history of philosophy, and he has authored two books and dozens of scholarly articles on Spinoza. Most recently he has been publishing in the field of medical ethics, co-editing an anthology on ethical dilemmas in pediatric cardiology and cardiac surgery.



**Brooke Vuckovic** is a coach and educator focused on helping executives define their purpose and presence as leaders — stretching them to become more focused, non-reactive, and clear on who they are, where they're going, why they lead, and what the circumstances they face demand of them. She received her MA and PhD from the University of Chicago and is a clinical professor of leadership at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, where she teaches on a wide variety of leadership topics in the executive and full-time MBA programs.

## **Session Presenters**



**Caroline Adelman**, PhD is the director of student wellness and support services at Near North Montessori School (IL), founder of Chicago Psychotherapy, LLC, and an assistant clinical professor at Northwestern University. She completed her PhD in clinical psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and

pre- and post-doctoral fellowships at the Child Study Center at Yale University. Prior to establishing Chicago Psychotherapy, she worked as a staff therapist and co-director of the Child and Adolescent Anxiety Clinic at The Family Institute at Northwestern University. She has published on the topics of anxiety disorders, childhood OCD, depression, non-suicidal self-injury, peer relationships among youth, and social construction.



**Palmer Ball** consults with independent school leaders on financial operations. In addition, she serves as executive director of the Palmetto Association of Independent Schools (SC) and assistant to the head for finance at St. Joseph's Catholic School (SC). She served as business manager at Spartanburg Day for 21 years.

Ball taught the school finance class at Klingenstein (Columbia University) with the National Business Officers Association (NBOA), is the recipient of the NBOA's prestigious Ken White Award, and served two terms on the NBOA board of directors. She has served on the faculty of NBOA's Business Officer Institute multiple times and presents at national and regional conferences.



**Deborah J. Daniels** is a partner with Krieg DeVault LLP, a law firm headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, with offices in four states. Daniels worked for many years in the criminal justice system, including roles as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana and U.S. Assistant Attorney General. She currently

advises clients ranging from government agencies to U.S. Olympic national governing bodies to other public and private sector entities, including educational institutions, with respect to internal investigations, corporate compliance, and the protection of young students and athletes from abuse. In 2017, she conducted an indepth analysis of the policies and practices of USA Gymnastics with regard to protecting young athletes from sexual abuse, resulting in a comprehensive set of recommendations. This report, now widely referenced as the "Daniels Report," has served as a blueprint for change in Olympic sport governance.



Kelly Dunn, LCPC practicing at Chicago Psychotherapy, specializes in the treatment of anxiety disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), adjustment disorders, and mood disorders, including depression and bipolar disorder. Prior to joining Chicago Psychotherapy, Dunn served as a staff therapist at The Family Institute

(TFI) at Northwestern University. She completed her master's in counseling at Northwestern University and a post-graduate clinical fellowship at TFI at Northwestern University.

## Session Presenters (continued)



**Randall Dunn** became Latin School of Chicago's (IL) head of school in July 2011 after serving for seven years as head of The Roeper School (MI). He currently serves as vice chair of the board of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and on the boards of Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, Mastery Transcript Consortium,

and Milton Academy. He is a former member of the board of the National Network of Schools in Partnership and the faculty of the NAIS Aspiring Heads Fellowship. Dunn holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University and a master's degree from Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Luke Felker serves as head of school at The Bay School of San Francisco, an independent high school located in the Presidio of San Francisco. Prior to joining Bay in 2015, he spent 10 years leading Madison Country Day School (WI), a PK-12 IB World School. Felker is immersed in the wider independent school

community, including extensive accreditation work and current service on the ISACS Accreditation Review Committee and the boards of ISACS, the California Teacher Development Collaborative, Presidio Knolls School (CA), and Sea Crest School (CA).



**Elizabeth Hofreuter** has served as the head of school at Wheeling Country Day School (WV) since 2009. She has chaired several ISACS visiting teams and currently serves on the ISACS Accreditation Review Committee. She earned her MEd from Harvard University Graduate School of Education and her BA from Princeton

University. She was a 2015 fellow in the Klingenstein Heads of Schools Program at Teachers College, Columbia University.



Kathryn Beaumont Murphy represents K-12 schools, as well as colleges and universities, in an outside general counsel role. Prior to joining Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, she worked as in-house counsel for a K-12 boarding and day school in the Boston area. Independent schools look to her for advice on employment issues, sexual misconduct

investigations, contract reviews, policy review and drafting, student discipline matters, 501(c)(3) compliance, board governance, and other legal and risk-related issues that heads of school and administrators face daily. Prior to law school, Murphy taught high school English at an independent school and worked in fundraising for a major university. She has an undergraduate degree in English from Princeton University, a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University, and her JD from Boston College Law School.



Jason Patera is the head of school at The Chicago Academy for the Arts (IL), an internationally acclaimed, independent, arts-focused high school in Chicago. Patera has been a part of the Academy community for more than 20 years, serving as an intern, faculty member, chair of the music department, assistant head of school/

principal, and head of school. A jazz pianist and drummer, he is a graduate of Berklee College of Music, where he studied arranging and contemporary writing and founded the college's newspaper, *The Groove*, now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year of publication. He also holds a master's degree in educational leadership and has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for excellence in teaching. He is an author, public speaker, and avid endurance athlete.



**Georgy Ann Peluchiwski** has served as a trustee at the Latin School of Chicago (IL) since 2007 and is in her fourth year as board chair. Previously she served as treasurer and chair of the finance committee and has participated in most other board committees. She also serves on the board of High Jump Chicago, an academic enrichment

Grants Chicago, an all-women's, volunteer grant making organization that she co-founded. She previously served on the board of the Chicago Children's Museum. Before leaving her career in finance, she was a director at First Chicago Capital Markets. Peluchiwski has a BA and a BBA in finance from the University of Texas and a master's of management in finance and marketing from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.



**Geoff Wagg** became Waynflete School's (ME) head of school on July 1, 2013. Prior to Waynflete, Wagg spent a decade at Episcopal Academy (PA) as head of upper school and in a leadership role overseeing the school's move to its new campus in Newtown Square. Before Episcopal, he was a leader in helping schools integrate technology

into their programs and served for many years on the National Association of Independent School's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology Task Force. Wagg received his BA from Connecticut College and his EdM from Teachers College, Columbia University. He is president of the board of the Independent Schools Association of Northern New England and sits on the board of the Association of Independent Schools in New England.



**Mike Vachow** founded Knuckleball Consulting in 2017 after over 30 years in independent schools as a classroom teacher, coach, senior administrator, head of school, and interim head of school. Knuckleball Consulting provides independent schools with counsel in leadership searches, mentoring, enrollment strategy, and governance.



**Gareth Vaughan** has been the head of school at Park Tudor School in Indianapolis (IN) since June 1, 2017. He is in his 35<sup>th</sup> year working in independent schools in the U.S. He was previously the headmaster of Indian Springs School in Birmingham (AL) and also had a long tenure at Washington International School

(WIS). At WIS, he held the positions of dean of students, assistant head, and head of the upper school. He is a graduate of the master's program at Klingenstein Center for Independent School Leadership at Columbia University Teachers College and holds degrees from George Washington University and the University of York. He has a post-graduate certificate in education from the Institute of Education at the University of London. Vaughan came to the U.S. in 1983 and is a dual citizen of the U.S. and United Kingdom.

