



Head of School Announcement

JANUARY 2020

Dear Carroll School community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am writing to share that Head of School, Steve Wilkins, has announced his intention to retire effective June 30, 2021. We are grateful for Steve's 15 years of transformative leadership and the immeasurable contributions he, his wife Sarah, and family have made to Carroll.

Steve is a passionate leader, dedicated to the pursuit of innovation and advancement in how we educate. He shepherded the creation of Targeted Cognitive Intervention, the new Arts and Innovation Center, and the guiding principle of "giving each child what they most need." Steve's vision led to the addition of the Waltham and Wayland campuses, opened the way for the new Upper School, and enabled us to nearly double the number of students and families Carroll supports. Steve has led Carroll's transformation from a focus on remediation to our pedagogical commitment to unlock the power of the dyslexic advantage, celebrating and investing in our students' exceptional strengths and talents.

We are confident that we are prepared to build on our extraordinary past. Steve and Sarah have shared their expertise, wisdom and friendship with every member of our community, leaving Carroll with gifted and inspired educators, a talented and committed operational team, and a strong partnership with our students' families. To recognize Steve and Sarah's invaluable imprint on our community, we are proud to establish the Wilkins Endowed Fund for Faculty Support.

As a pre-eminent school for students with learning differences, such as dyslexia, our search for a new Head will attract great talent. The timing of Steve's announcement gives us the opportunity to pursue a thorough nationwide search to find the best individual to lead Carroll forward and ensure a smooth transition in leadership. To guide the search process, we have formed a search committee comprised of board members, parents, faculty and senior administrators. We have also retained executive search firm, Spencer Stuart, which has an educational institution practice experienced in recruiting heads of schools and college presidents.

The committee values the input and feedback of our entire community: alumni, parents, faculty, staff and students. A series of events will be announced for the end of January where our stakeholders can voice their views on selecting our next leader.

It has been my great privilege to work closely with Steve for nine years, and I eagerly anticipate our ongoing partnership over the next 18 months as he transitions out of his role. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank Steve for his extraordinary leadership.

Dick Waters

Chair of the Board of Trustees, Carroll School

Dear Dick,

It has been the privilege of my life to serve as Head of School at Carroll. I use the word privilege intentionally. Those of us who are in positions to provide access to quality education for an underserved population are blessed. Carroll School's ability to help children and their families is powerful, and it has been an honor to watch this school grow to help more and more children and to provide ever-increasingly positive outcomes for our graduates.

It has also been a privilege to work at Carroll with some of the most talented, generous, and morally courageous people anywhere. The team of adults who support the Carroll community is simply outstanding. I thank the faculty and staff of Carroll School for their dedication and unfailing commitment to doing right by our families. I am grateful to the Board of Trustees for their bold governance that enables Carroll to grow and prosper beyond our largest dreams. I am in awe of the parents of Carroll students because they are champions for their children, operating against the odds, against conventional wisdom, and against conditions that seek to deny services to their children.

More than anyone, though, I bow in praise of Carroll students who strive and toil, who persist, who advocate, who demand, who laugh, and who get up off the floor time and time again because of a deep-seated understanding that they will eventually succeed. It has been a true gift to work with such extraordinary human beings. The world is lucky to include this type of person with their dynamic brains that can out-think the merely typical.

I am grateful for the launching pad that Carroll provided me as a twenty-two-year-old teacher and a rookie administrator back in the late 1970s. The sum total of my Carroll experiences convinces me, with supreme confidence, that the powerful mission of Carroll School will propel this community ever-further forward. Carroll is poised to climb higher: implement innovative approaches to remediation, intervene to diminish cognitive roadblocks that create reading difficulties, harness the power of data and technology, design impactful teacher-tutor professional training, and thereby forge better outcomes for children with dyslexia.

By June 2021, I suspect that my sixteen years at Carroll as Head of School will feel like sixteen minutes. But, somehow, Sarah and I know that this is the right time to retire from my current position.

Give each child what they most need.

Stephen M. Wilkins

Head of School, Carroll School



Carroll School

OUR MISSION

Carroll School empowers children with language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia, to become academically skilled students who are strong self-advocates and confident lifelong learners prepared to enter other academic settings.

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