

WARDLAW + HARTRIDGE

Pioneering. Thinkers.

September 29, 2022

Dear Wardlaw+Hartridge Families,

Over the past 17 years, I have developed deep appreciation and care for the Wardlaw+Hartridge community and am grateful for the opportunity to serve as the next Head of our distinctive and vibrant school.

As I consider my transition to Head of School, I do so with great optimism for the future of Wardlaw+Hartridge. There is much to take pride in and build upon as we celebrate our 140-year anniversary and look ahead to the next 14 decades! We are poised to take our academic, athletic, and arts programs to new levels of excellence and recognition by embracing an innovative and bold vision aligned with our mission to prepare students to lead and succeed in a world of global interconnection.

This is an exciting and pivotal moment to honor our long and esteemed history while moving ever forward to prepare students of today for a world we ourselves cannot know. We must inculcate in them a deep reservoir of skills and habits of mind that will be highly advantageous regardless of their future careers: critical and analytical thought in the face of myriad competing funnels of information, creative and collaborative problem solving, eagerness and openness to continue learning and even to change one's mind, clarity and nuance in written expression, and empathy for one another. In addition we must provide our students with the intellectual flexibility to see quickly what a situation requires and respond to it. We must teach them to see beyond what is to glimpse what will be, and then to plot a course toward it. We must help them to become people who do not fear new things, but rather expect to learn from them, and who expect to learn from people very different from themselves. It is indeed an incredible and exciting time to be a part of The Wardlaw+Hartridge School community.

I wish to thank the Search Committee and our entire Board of Trustees for the trust and good faith they have shown in my leadership by extending this opportunity to serve as Head of School. I would like to extend special thanks and appreciation to our Head of School, Andy Webster, who has skillfully and with great spirit led us for nearly 18 years. It is to him that I owe a great deal of gratitude for guidance, mentorship, and stalwart support over many years.

I look forward to a successful transition into my new role. Onward!

Corinna Crafton



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1295 Inman Avenue | Edison, NJ 08820 | (T) 908.754.1882 | WHSchool.org