

HEAD OF SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT



Dear Berkshire Community,

At this morning's Assembly in Allen Theater, I shared with students that the 2027-28 school year will be my last as Berkshire's Head of School. The timing of this announcement follows my good conversations with our Board of Trustees over the past year and leaves the school well-positioned to appoint its next head of school and ensure the strongest leadership transition.

Serving Berkshire has been the greatest honor of my professional life, and while I am excited about the next chapter with Lucia and our family, it is difficult to imagine leaving a community that has meant so much to us and that has become such an integral part of our lives. "Once a Bear, always a Bear" is a refrain I've been quick to share with our students and alumni over the years, and this sentiment represents the same indelible mark that Berkshire has left on me and on us.

As you know well, Berkshire is a truly remarkable place. From the moment Lucia and I arrived on campus in the fall of 2005, we have been inspired by the character, kindness, and spirit of our students; by the talent and tireless dedication of our faculty and staff; and by the steadfast commitment of our families, alumni, and trustees. Every day, we are reminded of what makes this school special: a collective belief in the transformative experience of a Berkshire education, the power of a community grounded in shared values, and a relentless ambition to help young people discover their potential and purpose. We've seen this firsthand as the lives of our own two children have been shaped by this opportunity to grow, live, and learn under the eye of exceptional teachers, coaches, advisors, and mentors.

As I reflect on my time at Berkshire, I am filled with gratitude for all that we have accomplished and for everyone who has helped to make this possible. Just as important as these accomplishments is the foundation we have established for the future. Berkshire is a school of tremendous strength and momentum, sustained by extraordinary people who care deeply about one another and about the values that have defined this school for generations. The confidence I feel in making this decision now is rooted in my confidence in Berkshire's future. We are well-poised for new leadership to build upon the strengths we have cultivated together, and I'm humbled to have played a role in our success as a school.

While this announcement marks the early stages of a leadership transition, there remains much important work ahead. I am fully committed to Berkshire and to serving over the next two years with the same enthusiasm and dedication that I've strived to bring to every moment of my tenure. Lucia has been a strategic partner at every step, both from her own leadership roles at the school and by her instincts, judgement, and expertise in helping to tell the Berkshire story.

I am deeply grateful to the Board of Trustees for their trust, partnership, and support. I am equally thankful for the friendship and collaboration of colleagues, parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends of the school who have enriched my experience in countless ways. I have been fortunate indeed to work in a community whose support for all of its members has been both inspiring and unwavering. Mostly, I am grateful to our students. Their stories, optimism, resilience, joy, compassion, and curious sense of life's possibilities have made every day under the Mountain meaningful for me. They are the reason we do this work, and they continue to give me great confidence in the future.

I know that Berkshire's best days lie ahead. The Board of Trustees has been engaged in thoughtful succession planning and will provide information about the search process in the coming weeks, including opportunities for community engagement as that process unfolds. In closing, thank you for the trust you have placed in me and for the privilege of serving as Berkshire's Head of School. Lucia and I look forward to the next two years and to continuing to work with all of you in support of this extraordinary school.

With deep gratitude and respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pieter Mulder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Pieter" and last name "Mulder" clearly distinguishable.

Pieter Mulder P'22,'26
Head of School