



Update from the Board of Trustees

October 29, 2024

Dear Members of the Green Hedges School Community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Green Hedges School, I am pleased to announce that we have selected an experienced Head of School with a long career in Washington-area independent schools, including as a Green Hedges Trustee, as our Interim Head of School for the 2025-2026 school year. The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name Peter A. Barrett as our Interim Head of School, effective July 1, 2025. Having secured an Interim Head at this time represents one more step in ensuring a smooth transition to our permanent Head of School in the 2026-2027 school year. (Details about that process are noted at the end of this letter.)

Peter previously served as Head of School at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School (Nursery-Grade 8) in Washington, D.C. for 28 years. After retiring in 2022, he joined the Green Hedges Board of Trustees and has been active on both the Committee of Trustees and the Finance Committee. With extensive knowledge of independent schools in the Washington metropolitan area and beyond from his long tenure as Head of School and in other school-based roles, Peter brings a wealth of expertise to the position. Prior to his headship at St. Patrick's, Peter spent 14 years at St. Albans School, first as a Lower School teacher and then as Lower School Director of Studies. He has also been a Grade 5 teacher at The Park School in Baltimore. Peter earned his M.A.T. in elementary education from Northwestern University and his B.A. in English from Trinity College.

"Having been in Washington-area independent schools for 45 years as a teacher, senior administrator, head of school, parent, and trustee, I have long admired the work of Green Hedges School, mostly from a distance," Peter observed. "The privilege of serving on the Green Hedges Board of Trustees during the last two years has drawn me closer to that exciting work. In turn, the honor of serving as Interim Head of School during the 2025-2026 school year will complete that arc, allowing me to become deeply involved, on a daily basis, with faculty and staff and with children and families in providing a superb Green Hedges education."

Since departing St. Patrick's, Peter has been a senior consultant with Carney, Sandoe & Associates, a highly respected search and consulting firm that partners with independent schools nationally and internationally—activity that has enabled him to work with schools across the country that are experiencing leadership transitions.

"By their very nature, leadership transitions create uncertainty and apprehension, even when filled with possibility and hope, and highlight both the strength and fragility of our communities," said Peter. "I look forward to working with the Board of Trustees, with professional colleagues, and with the children and families who have made Green Hedges their school-home to continue to nourish and sustain that strength and move toward permanent leadership with a sense of determination, enthusiasm, and possibility. The opportunity to collaborate with Jenn and her team across the rest of this school year is an exciting one as we prepare for an exceptional year to follow. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity."

To initiate the transition, Peter will be on campus on Thursday and Friday, November 7 and 8, to meet with members of the Green Hedges community, including faculty and staff, administrators, parents and guardians, and students. Please be on the lookout for invitations to some of our meet-and-greet opportunities ([schedule here](#)). In addition, Peter will continue as a member of the Board of Trustees for the rest of this year, meet regularly with Jenn, and look for other opportunities throughout the year, both formal and informal, to get to know even better the individuals who bring Green Hedges to life every single day. Please join me in warmly welcoming Peter to our wonderful school.

The graphic below outlines key steps for our national search for our permanent Head of School, effective July 1, 2026. We look forward to engaging our entire community in the process of identifying the next leader for Green Hedges School. If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,
Jessica



Jessica Wadlow
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Head of School National Search

Identify and onboard a search consultant to help us navigate the process.

Goal: By End of 2024

Form a Search Committee consisting of Trustees and other community members.

Goal: End of 2024, Kick-off Early 2025

Search and interview process with Search Committee and national search firm.

Goal: Board Appointment Decision by fall 2025

New Head of School begins.

Goal: July 1, 2026

Mission

We inspire young people of talent and promise to develop clear values, a desire for wisdom, and an appreciation for all endeavors which broaden the mind and enlighten the spirit.

Read more about our diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives [here](#).

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