

Leadership Journeys

Marcy Mitchel, Headmaster Northern Oaks Lower School



Classical education drew Marcy Mitchel to Great Hearts, especially the focus on the moral formation of children through building habits of virtue. “The model aligned with our family values,” she said. “I was as a parent and Kindergarten teacher in the inaugural year for Great Hearts Northern Oaks, then served as Assistant Headmaster for almost 9 years before stepping into the role of Headmaster.”



In stepping into this new role on her campus, Headmaster Mitchel attributes to her growth and confidence to participation in the Headmaster College (former Great Hearts leadership program) and ProSeminar, as well her lengthy experience as Assistant Headmaster. “Under the tutelage of Headmaster Keffer and Headmaster Brogan, I have been able to grow in my ability to build relationships with teachers through coaching and training the best practices in classroom management and instruction.”

What’s been most fulfilling for Ms. Mitchel in her new role? She expresses gratitude for her leadership team “who are dedicated in supporting our teachers in training our students to think deeply, love noble things, wonder and build habits of order.” While the struggles of managing everyday tasks of running a classical school keep her on her toes, she is grateful for the intentional culture that has been built at Great Hearts Northern Oaks. She is focused on hiring teachers who are aligned to the mission, and she shared that her main goal “is to grow in prioritizing what’s most important, simplifying things, communicating clearly and efficiently, and running meetings so that teachers are heard and get the coaching they need to best support our students. Maintaining faculty and student culture is so important to me!”