



April 7, 2020

Dear All Saints Preschool Families,



On behalf of the All Saints Episcopal Preschool Search Committee, and the Preschool Board, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Melissa Taylor as the next Director of our preschool.

Melissa has a strong and impressive background in Elementary and Early-Childhood Education, as well as most recently being a lead teacher at our preschool for two years. She has also worked at St. Christopher's School and public schools in Hanover, Virginia. Melissa holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University and Masters in Education in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Richmond. She is also a National Board-

Certified Teacher attesting to the high quality of her classroom experience in all settings.

The Search Committee received 25 applicants for this position. After interviewing with several potential and remarkable candidates, the Search Committee made the final recommendation to hire Melissa. Melissa not only has an extraordinary educational background and experience; she also has strong support from other All Saints Preschool teachers and parents who have worked with her. The Search Committee and I were especially impressed with how Melissa typed out concrete examples regarding how she would build upon the foundation of our Preschool, specifically, ways to improve enrollment, online resources, support for teachers, and most importantly, enhance the learning experience for our children.

We are certain that Melissa's experience with developmentally appropriate programs for preschool children and her experience in administration and educational assessment will make her an invaluable asset to All Saints Episcopal Preschool. She has immense passion for education and vision for our future here. As Melissa shared with me: "I'm very excited to come on board as the new Director of All Saints Preschool. I've been fortunate to be a teacher at All Saints for the past two years as I finished my master's degree in School Leadership and Policy Studies. I look forward to applying the best practice I learned at UR in leading the preschool into it's next chapter. I look forward to working with the school's nurturing preschool staff and all of the families that call All Saints home."

Melissa will begin as director on June 1, 2020. I ask you to please help us warmly welcome Melissa to this new position. We have an enormous gratitude for the leadership of the Search Committee Chairs in Anne Hogge and Megan Kayser. Join us in thanking all the members of the Search Committee who gave so much of their time and incredible talents as we walked through this process together over the last two months: Brian Barker, Kristan McGehee, Lindsey Systemann, Becky Jenkins, Karen Kusterer, and Courtney Ash. This committee did an exceptional job for our children and the bright future of our preschool. We are so blessed!

I hope your family is staying healthy during this difficult time. Have a blessed Easter.

In Christ's Name,

Brent Melton