Jan. 31, 2019

Dear NCS family and friends,

On behalf of the Governing Board, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Susan C. Bosland as interim Head of National Cathedral School for the 2019-2020 school year.

The longtime head of Kent Place School in New Jersey, Sue is an ideal choice to succeed Kathleen O’Neill Jamieson and guide NCS as we prepare to welcome our 11th permanent Head of School in 2020. In her three decades in education, including 18 years as Kent Place’s head, Sue has been a visionary, inspiring leader. Time and again, she led the school community to identify opportunities for growth. By fostering collaboration and building coalitions to achieve long-term goals, she created an extraordinary record of accomplishment. Her energy, warmth, and strong moral compass motivated the community to join her in working hard toward meeting its common goals.

Kent Place is a girls’ school that enrolls 650 students and, like NCS, is known nationally for the quality of its education and the ability of its graduates. A major emphasis of Sue’s tenure was the creation of innovative educational spaces, including two particularly noteworthy institutes. The Girls’ Leadership Institute builds confidence, ambition, and self-esteem in students in grades 4 through 9. Heading into its 24th year, the program annually enrolls nearly 100 girls for one- or two-week programs. The Ethics Institute at Kent Place School has partnered with organizations such as Georgetown University’s Kennedy Institute of Ethics to develop a curricular approach for teaching ethical decision-making.

As Head of School, Sue worked with faculty, students, and staff to enhance Kent Place’s diversity and inclusion initiatives, including through hiring a director of diversity. Her emphasis on professional development among the faculty, staff, and administrators resulted in major curriculum development and expansion. She led two capital campaigns and oversaw several major construction projects on the school’s campus in Summit, N.J.

Sue has been an important voice in promoting independent schools, and particularly girls’ education. Last summer, she completed her term on the board of trustees for the National Coalition of Girls’ Schools. Sue also served as president of the Heads Network, board secretary for the Head Mistresses Association of the East, and board chair of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools. It may come as no surprise to you that Sue is herself a girls’ school graduate, having attended the Laurel School outside Cleveland before earning degrees from Denison University and Columbia University.
In June 2017, Sue stepped away from Kent Place after more than a quarter-century at the school. She and her husband moved to Washington, D.C., to be closer to family, and she became a partner at the executive search firm Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, focusing on independent schools. Sue will take a leave of absence from that position, as well as from her position on the Maret School board, while she serves as NCS Head.

As you know, the NCS Interim Head of School Search Committee, co-chaired by Elise Rabekoff and Linda Keene Solomon ’82, has been engaged since November in identifying and recommending an interim Head to the Governing Board, and I couldn’t be more grateful for the committee’s outstanding judgment and discernment. Its nomination of Sue was approved in recent days by the Board and the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation Board of Trustees. We look forward to her starting work in Hearst Hall in July, supported in this transition by the Board and the school’s administrative team.

Sue will attend the March 6 Parents Association meeting at 8:00 am in Hearst Auditorium, where current parents may hear firsthand from this impressive educator. We will schedule opportunities this fall for alumnae and parents of alumnae to meet with her.

Meanwhile, the Head of School Search Committee, also chaired by Elise and Linda, continues its work toward identifying a permanent Head. It has made impressive progress in a short period of time in connecting with many outstanding school leaders and discussing the opportunity to lead our fine school. I cannot fully express my appreciation to the committee chairs and members for their dedication to this project. The committee will continue to update you on its progress as developments warrant.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to remind you of the May 15 service at the Cathedral, where we will celebrate Kathy Jamieson’s remarkable leadership of NCS. Please plan on joining us at 5:30 pm for this wonderful community gathering, where together we can thank Kathy for all she has done for and brought to our school during her faithful leadership.

Yours sincerely,

Alice Hill ’74
Chair, National Cathedral School Governing Board