

ATRIUM SCHOOL

ANNOUNCEMENT



EXCELLENCE WITH JOY

April 28th 2016

Dear Atrium Community,

We have been very fortunate for the past nine years to benefit from the leadership of Linda Echt. It is with great sadness that I write to share Linda's decision to step down as Head of School in June of 2017. Linda's years at Atrium are marked by her many accomplishments which will leave a remarkable legacy. Under her superb leadership, Atrium has experienced transformative changes and initiatives.

With her guidance and careful planning Linda led us through our successful reaccreditation. Under her headship we have grown both in enrollment and financial strength. Linda's warmth has ushered many students and families into our school. She successfully led the Growing With Atrium Campaign that funded the expansion of our school and program—adding a middle school, music and art studios, and fully renovating the lower level of the building. Linda's vision of making sciences more accessible to all students at Atrium will forever live in the Linda Echt Science Room.

Linda advanced the creation of Atrium's Strategic Plan, which updated our mission and continues to guide us through our work as an institution. She has implemented the formation of long term budgets that balanced both costs and revenues while keeping program and students in the forefront.

Providing Atrium, a permanent home has been a long-term dream of our School. In March of this year, Atrium purchased its building, making this dream a reality. Atrium now has a permanent home. Thank you Linda!

As the leader of the School, Linda has inspired us—as students, trustees, faculty and administration alike—to build a community where each person's voice can be heard and respected. I am continually reminded of her deep affection for our students. Her primary objective has been to ensure that our students' experience at Atrium is filled with joy, deep learning, and the understanding that they are essential contributors to their own communities. Linda's personal warmth has been a gift to Atrium and will be deeply missed.

The Board of Trustees has begun the search process for Linda's successor. Current Board Vice President, Mary O'Neill will chair the Head of School Search Committee which will be comprised of trustees, faculty and staff. I am pleased to let you know that Dennis Colling, Cynthia Strauss, Ed Lang, Renée Curtin, Merry Murray Meade and I will serve on the Search Committee. The Search Committee will also be joined by a faculty and staff advisory committee. The Board has engaged with search consultant, Bruce A. Shaw to develop a comprehensive process for the selection of the Head of School. The process will allow for all constituents to provide input about the important attributes the Board should consider as we select the next Head of School. We will provide more information about the search and the process in the coming weeks. On behalf of the Board of Trustees; I would like to thank you for your continued support and commitment to Atrium School.

Please join me in thanking Linda for her service to Atrium and wishing her every success.

With deepest appreciation,



Silvia Nersessian

President, Board of Trustees

Dear Atrium Community,

Over the past 9 years, I have had the great honor and true privilege of working at Atrium School.

Today, I write to inform you that I have communicated with the Board of Trustees that I will be stepping down as the Head of School, a year from now, at the end of our 2016–2017 school year.

As Director of Admissions, Associate Director; Co-Director and Head of School, I have worked with many incredibly dedicated Trustees, talented administrators and absolutely gifted teachers. I have been surrounded by involved and thoughtful families and the most amazing students ever! I have long thought, that I've been afforded the greatest and most unique opportunity to work in such a loving gem of a school.

I will be completing my Headship at Atrium School knowing the school continues on a path of excellence and joy. I have been privileged to witness the growth, development and progress of a strong, mission-driven and child-focused school.

Atrium School has exciting months ahead and so much to look forward to. While at Atrium I have been able to work with many to build on our roots that Ginny laid down nearly 35 years ago. It has been extraordinary to be a part of and witness the growth of our school and most importantly to see how the lives of our students are impacted by the work of so many.

I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to lead Atrium School, and I know Atrium will continue to make wonderful accomplishments in the years ahead.

With immense gratitude and love—



Linda Echt
Head of School