



Dear Atrium Community,

September 30, 2016



I'm pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees has selected Marshall W. Carter as the next Head of School of Atrium School, effective July 1, 2017. The selection by both the Board and the Search Committee was unanimous. In Marshall, the Board sees a leader and educator with a deep understanding of progressive education, creativity, and vision who will build on the remarkable work accomplished for our school by Linda Echt.

Those of you who had the opportunity to meet Marshall when he visited Atrium as a finalist know that he is a bright, thoughtful, engaging leader with strong communication skills. His belief "that a student's social, emotional, and spiritual growth are of equal priority, to be cultivated by teachers with as much commitment and intent as any lesson in number sense, mammal anatomy, grammatical structure or music theory" aligns remarkably well with Atrium's mission and values.

Marshall has over 20 years' experience in independent schools, working primarily with K-8 age students. In addition to his former role as K-8 Principal at Milton Academy, he also serves on the Board of Trustees at The Rashi School where he served as Middle School Director. He taught at Shady Hill for many years and most recently brought history to life for over 2,000 students and 300 teachers in his role as Founding Director of Education at the Museum of WWII Boston.

Those who have worked with Marshall report that his intellectual curiosity and educational expertise guide him in making well informed decisions with great care. He has a proven track record of implementing practical and substantive initiatives. Marshall is collegial and engaging, with a hands-on leadership style. He has the vision, empathy, decisiveness, flexibility and judgment to lead Atrium well.

The appointment of Marshall marks the end of a successful search. Our search attracted a number of impressive candidates from around the country, and this appointment is the result of a thoughtful and rigorous search process led by Mary O'Neill P'20. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mary and the entire Search Committee. We also owe thanks to the faculty, staff, students, and parents who met with the finalist candidates and provided valuable feedback to the Search Committee; and to the alumni parents and former faculty who, at the beginning of this process, shared their hopes for and insights about our school.

Finally, we are deeply grateful to Linda for her support and assistance throughout, and for the example she has set of dedicated leadership these past ten years. We will soon share information with you about our plans to celebrate and honor Linda.

Throughout the coming months Marshall will make periodic visits to Atrium for meetings as he deepens his knowledge of the school before joining us officially on July 1, 2017. We look forward to welcoming Marshall to our school, and hope that you will help us warmly welcome him to the Atrium community.

Sincerely,

Dennis Colling  
Chair, Board of Trustees

#### Search Committee

Dennis Colling  
*Chair of the Board, Current Parent*

Renée Curtin  
*Director of Advancement*

Ed Lang  
*Trustee, Alumni Class of 1995*

Merry Murray Meade  
*Kindergarten Teacher*

Silvia Nersessian  
*Former Board Chair, Alumni Parent*

Mary O'Neill  
*Trustee, Chair/Search Committee*

Cynthia Strauss  
*Trustee, Alumni Parent*