

Dear Cheshire Academy Community:

Today I am writing on behalf of the Cheshire Academy Board of Trustees to announce that after 21 years of service to the Academy, Head of School Julie Anderson P'19,'23 has decided to step away from her role at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Julie has served the school for more than two decades, in virtually every capacity and will leave a legacy of profound and lasting impact. Julie has served in a wide range of positions, managing so deftly nearly every aspect of school operations, navigating unique and challenging times, and advancing the institution, its programs, its reputation, and the value of the diploma.

This news may come as a surprise as Julie has been the face, heart, and soul of CA during her tenure, especially over the last seven years as head of school. Her steadfast leadership has brought the school increased success, status, and stability, and, most importantly, has supported, guided, and educated countless students in transformative and enduring ways.

We are of course saddened by this news, while at the same time grateful for Julie's ongoing commitment and advance notice of her decision and departure date, allowing us to take the time necessary to conduct a comprehensive search for Cheshire's next head.

Julie Anderson's legacy is already firmly established: her selfless dedication to the mission and values of our school, her unwavering devotion to student success, support, and mentoring of faculty, and her tireless leadership which has advanced the school in countless ways. There is virtually no area of school life and operations that Julie has not impacted, from her early days as a Spanish teacher, and later in roles of increasing importance including department chair, head of the middle school, dean of academics, and associate head of school for academic affairs. When the school needed her, Julie answered the call to step in as interim head of school before eventually being appointed head in 2018.

As Julie and her husband Tom Marshall start to plan the next chapter in their personal and professional lives, we will begin the Board's most important obligation as we search for Julie's successor. The next step is the formation of a search committee that will include trustees, as well as members of the faculty and staff. The committee's first charge will be to retain a qualified and appropriate firm to assist us in the formal head of school search process. You will be kept informed of the committee's work via frequent communications including email and website updates.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will also have the opportunity to honor and thank Julie, Tom, and their family.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Freedman P'15 Chair, Board of Trustees