

*(Emailed on June 14, 2022)*

Dear GWA Families,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to begin this letter with two simple but powerful words: THANK YOU. We are incredibly grateful to the many people who come together to make George Walton Academy the incredible school that it is today.

**Thank you:**

- to all our students and parents for partnering with GWA to make this past school year such a success.
- to our teachers, coaches, and staff for your hard work, talent, and all the many ways you go above and beyond for our students each and every day.
- to the Class of 2022 for setting an impressive example of leadership, scholastic achievement, and community service. Your legacy will inspire countless students for generations to come.
- to our Head of School Gary Hobbs for your leadership. GWA continues to grow stronger under your experienced stewardship.

As you will recall, Mr. Hobbs was appointed Head of School last summer with the understanding that he would serve until the appropriate time was identified to conduct a search and hire the next Head of School. We believe the time is now right to begin the process. After much discussion and with the guidance of the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA), the Board of Trustees is prepared to move forward with the process. Gary Hobbs will continue to lead the school as our search is underway and will also serve as a key member of our Search Committee. Additional members of the Head of School Search Committee include Melissa Shannahan (Chair), Michael Geoffroy (Vice-Chair), Femke Côté, Jeanie Beach, Kellie Watts, Tina Scott, Vicky Peppers, Lee Garrett, and me. Focus groups comprised of parents, alumni, teachers, administrators and students will also be formed to participate in the process.

A description of the position will be advertised through GISA resources across the nation and applications will be accepted through September of 2022. Candidate interviews and meetings will be conducted with focus groups and the Search Committee throughout the fall of 2022. The Head of School Search Committee will identify candidates for campus visits and in-depth interviews in late October/early November 2022. The goal is to name the new Head of School by December 2022/January 2023.

We are excited about the strong enrollment growth and innovative programs that have been implemented over the past few years and we will seek a Head of School not only to carry out the Mission of the school but also to continue to strengthen GWA's position as a leader in academic excellence and outstanding educational experiences. We appreciate the significance of this position and how important it is to find a leader who embraces and celebrates our GWA culture, traditions, and values while bringing talent, creativity, and vision to the role.

GWA is a remarkable family of students, parents, teachers, coaches, and staff who pour their time and talents into making this school truly special. The Board is excited about the direction in which the school is headed and the selection process for the next leader who will help guide George Walton Academy to even further success.

Sincerely,



Roy Roberts, Jr.

Board of Trustees Chairman