

AN IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT
FROM



1929
Wheeling
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

"CREATE YOUR LEGACY, AND
PASS THE BATON."

Billy Jean King

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We are honored and pleased to announce that the Wheeling Country Day School Board of Trustees has unanimously selected Jessica Broski-Birch as our next great head of school! Now that the search is behind us, we turn to embrace the bright future that lies ahead.

Jessica's energy and collaborative approach will lead us forward. She will continue Wheeling Country Day School's vision, strong belief in child-centered education, and commitment to fearless learning. Jessica will carry on the legacy of leadership excellence that we have enjoyed at Wheeling Country Day School.

I want to express our unending love and admiration for Liz, who has selflessly committed 15 years to our Wheeling Country Day School family. Liz has forever impacted the lives of each of us and countless children, families, faculty and friends in inspiring and immeasurable ways.

Lisa Allen

Chair, Wheeling Country Day School Board of Trustees



As we turned the corner into April I've been reflecting on just how quickly this school year has passed. After 15 years at WCDS, I'm entering my final spring, and with it all the usual milestones from the launch of the Jojo X Weather Balloon to our Early Childhood Showcase to 8th Grade Graduation and our beloved Field Day. During this time of transition, my confidence in the future of WCDS remains strong due to the strengths and passions of our 20th Head of School, Jessica Broski-Birch.

I want to share my heartfelt congratulations to Jessica. I have full confidence that she will lead our school with grace and skill. As she begins her own WCDS journey, she will be bolstered by the great wisdom from the hearts and minds of those who know and love this school, from students and teachers to trustees and parents. I encourage her to trust in her abilities, draw on her experience, and most importantly, lean into the WCDS community.

As I did, she stands on the shoulders of giants. I do not doubt that she will build upon the strong foundation and take our school to new heights. I look forward to providing whatever partnership I can as I remain a lifelong WCDS supporter. Together, throughout the upcoming transition, we will continue to foster a nurturing and inclusive environment where every student and adult feels valued and empowered to succeed.

Once again, congratulations to Jessica on this new role, and I wish her all the success and fulfillment that I have been blessed to procure. May her journey as the Head of our school be filled with joy, purpose, and the same sense of endless possibilities that our students and teachers find *here*.

Elizabeth Hofreuter

Outgoing Head of School, Wheeling Country Day School



I am thrilled and honored to reach out to you today as we embark on an exciting new chapter in the illustrious history of Wheeling Country Day School. As I step into the role of Head of School, I am keenly aware of the legacy of excellence that has been woven into the fabric of Wheeling Country Day School over the past 95 years.

First, I want to take a moment to pay homage to Liz Hofreuter, my esteemed predecessor, whose visionary leadership has shaped the school into the beacon of educational innovation and excellence it is today. Her passion for learning, dedication, and fostering curiosity have set a standard that I am honored to build upon.

As I embark on this journey, I would also like to take a moment to introduce myself. I am not just the new Head of School at Wheeling Country Day, but I am also a proud member of the Wheeling community, born and raised in this special place. This community holds a dear place in my heart, as this is where I was raised and where I raise my own children. I am the mother of three boys, and a wife to a husband who shares a passion for education and community involvement.

My journey in education has been a diverse one, spanning experience in elementary, middle, and secondary education, as well as administrative leadership. Each step of my career has been guided by a passion for empowering students to become lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and compassionate members of our global society.

As we embark on this new chapter together, I am filled with optimism and excitement at the seemingly endless possibilities that lie ahead. Together, we have the opportunity to continue fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and energy that prepares our students for a life full of meaning and depth.

I am eager to get to know each and every one of the members and supporters of Wheeling Country Day School and to ensure that this school remains a place where passion and the zest of life fuel the spirit of learning.

With warm regards and boundless optimism,

Jessica Boski-Birch
Incoming Head of School, Wheeling Country Day School

Dear Wheeling Country Day School Community:

We believe Jessica Broski-Birch will be a highly competent and confident steward of Wheeling Country Day School. Her intelligence, belief in progressive education, exceptional interpersonal skills, and collaborative leadership style are a strong fit for us. Jessica genuinely believes in the emotional and academic growth of children as individuals and has demonstrated a commitment to upholding the potential of every student in more traditional school systems. She is excited to bring this passion to WCDS, where that value is integral to our core mission and everyday school experience.

Beginning in August of 2023, the Search Committee, chaired by Scott Harden, began working with RG175, which specializes in searches for independent schools. The unique culture, pedagogy, and operation of WCDS created by Liz over the past fifteen years lead us to ask, who best can preserve, sustain, and build on that foundation? We were fortunate to have three excellent finalists. From the three, the Search Committee unanimously recommended Jessica to the Board as the best fit for WCDS.

Jessica was drawn to Wheeling Country Day because of our innovative, progressive teaching methods and our core value of fearless learning. In her former position as Principal at Bridge Street Middle School, she built a collaborative team that became a model within the public school system. Jessica is an innovator and under her leadership, a number of new programs were developed, including a comprehensive and community-based social-emotional learning program, a student-led career exploratory program, small group personalized learning courses focused on independent academic growth, a nationally recognized robotics team, an archery team, and a student-run marketplace.

Wheeling is a unique area with distinct challenges. As a longtime resident who is involved in the community, Jessica appreciates our assets but understands our challenges. Her communication and relationship-building skills will make her effective at forging partnerships with businesses and donors.

Jessica's appointment marks an exciting but emotional moment in Wheeling Country Day School's history. She will succeed Elizabeth Hofreuter, who has served WCDS for fifteen highly successful years. Following in Liz's footsteps is no easy task. Liz's impact on Country Day and the Wheeling community is immeasurable and her legacy is enduring. Her unwavering leadership, passion, and love for Country Day has led us to this exciting new chapter. We wish her well on her new journey.

WCDS Board of Trustees
