

## Important news from the MCA Board of Directors

February 8, 2024

After six years, Annmarie Quezada has decided to resign as Head of School of Mother Caroline Academy (MCA) effective March 1<sup>st</sup> due to confidential personal reasons. We thank Annmarie for her service to the school community and wish her continued success. Annmarie's last day onsite at MCA will be Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> (the start of school vacation week). She will continue to be available through March 1<sup>st</sup> to support a smooth transition to new leadership at MCA.

As we look ahead, our primary focus is to ensure that MCA continues to uphold the same distinguished academic programming for which it has been recognized for over the past 30 years. We are pleased to announce that Marie Louise "ML" Greenidge will step into the role of Interim Head of School effective March 4<sup>th</sup>. ML is a valued member of the community and brings a wealth of experience as a servant leader and embodies the MCA culture of empowering girls. In this expanded role ML will continue to oversee all Development-related matters while ensuring the mission of MCA is recognized throughout the broader community. ML first joined the MCA community in 2002 as an educator. She transitioned to the Development Office as Development Coordinator. She left to take on a bigger role at another school as Director of Advancement for 11 years before returning to MCA in 2021 as Director of Development. She is an accomplished, results-driven, and socially conscious Development leader possessing 35 years of experience in both corporate and non-profit sectors. ML holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from Howard University and a Masters in Business Administration from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

In addition, Dr. Thomas Savas (Ph.D. Education, Ohio State University) has stepped up to serve as Interim Assistant Head of School. Tom joined MCA six years ago as a volunteer success coach and has served as Dean of Academics for the last two years. He is a licensed educator in both New York State as well as the Commonwealth. Before rising to Dean, Tom taught in both the lower and upper schools and served as Curriculum Coordinator at MCA. Throughout his tenure at MCA, Tom has proven to be a strong innovative educator. As Interim Assistant Head of School, he will continue to lead all student and faculty engagement and support enrollment efforts this spring.

This combined interim team will ensure that MCA continues to provide an excellent academic program for students and families, with a minimum of disruption. Members of the Board have met with the leadership team at MCA to offer support and ensure that there is a smooth transition through the end of the school year. We thank both ML and Tom for their leadership and we appreciate their willingness to take on expanded responsibilities.

As we have already announced, Dr. Carla Haith will be the new Head of School starting July 1, 2024. We are so thrilled that she will be spearheading MCA's efforts into the future. As part of



her transition into this role, she has agreed to be onsite at MCA and begin meeting with community members in March. Specific dates will be forthcoming.

In addition, the Board has retained Ned Parsons, an experienced educator and school executive. Ned previously served as the Head of School for The Rivers School for 14 years and will act as an advisor to the Board during this interim period of transition.

We are confident that the interim plan we have put into place will provide the stability needed to finish the school year off strong. We appreciate the support of the MCA leadership team, faculty, and staff during this transition, and we look forward to welcoming Dr. Carla Haith as new Head of School on July 1, 2024.

Sincerely,

MCA Board of Directors Co-Chairs Essence Souffrant Meg Tallon <u>board.chair@mcaec.org</u>



## Message from Head of School Annmarie Quezada

Dear MCA Community,

Over the last six years, it has been a pleasure to work in improving Mother Caroline Academy and dedicating my time to the students, parents, and the community of Grove Hall. I have submitted my resignation as of January 25, 2024. My last day at school in person will be Friday, February 16 and I will be available until March 1. It is my hope this will allow me to pursue my personal goals. I am excited for MCA to have the opportunity to bring in Dr. Carla Haith as the new Head of School with a fresh perspective.

I am grateful to have come to this wonderful school in 2018, and also for what I was able to help accomplish to move the school forward. This includes:

- A successful 10 year re-accreditation by AISNE
- The addition of Grade 3
- A new SEL/Advisory program integrated into the school's culture and curriculum
- A STEM/Humanities iterative design program with Makerspace and Coding classes
- Hiring a variety of outstanding full-time learning specialists, supporting learning needs across all school programs
- A partnership with EV Kids and their excellent tutoring program
- A partnership with Boston College and the Urban Catholic Teacher Corps Program
- Acceptances of the eighth graders at high achieving independent, boarding, and private high schools.

As Head of School, I have endeavored to model for our students how strength comes from kindness and acceptance of others. I am grateful for the many wonderful educators and parents that I have met at the school, and what I will cherish and remember the most are the students and community of MCA.

Sincerely, Annmarie Quezada Head of School