

# The Wyndcroft School



July 2010

Dear Parents, Alumni, and Friends,

As the new President and as Past President of the Board of Trustees, we write to you with the news that Dr. Kate Wunner has informed the Board of her formal decision to retire at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. After thirteen years as Head of School at Wyndcroft and thirty years working in other schools, Dr. Wunner will be leaving Wyndcroft for new adventures. As she explained to the faculty earlier this summer, "Although I still love my work here at Wyndcroft, the time is right for me and for the school. Retirement will give me the opportunity to explore another life with my husband Bill and my extended family while I still have some health and energy to do so." In fact, you should know that for several years now, Dr. Wunner has been discussing with the officers of the Board the possibility of her retirement. As a result of her love for the school, and at our request she has waited until, together, we felt the school was in the right place for this transition. So our heavy hearts, as we look forward to her last year as Head, are balanced by our great respect and gratitude for the amazing work she has done for the school.

Although Dr. Wunner humbly credits others and fortunate circumstances for many of the changes, it is fitting for us to note some achievements that have occurred during her twelve years as head of school:

- The mission of the school, to provide an excellent education in a nurturing environment, clarified and given its proper prominence
- Wyndcroft recognized as one of the premier independent pre-prep schools west of Philadelphia such that enrollment grew from 169 in 1998 to the 240-250 range the school has maintained for the last five years
- Exceptional, passionate faculty hired and motivated
- Renovations, improvements, and additions to the facilities including new classrooms, library, computer room, playgrounds, SMART boards, the Dau House, and a new gym floor still to be completed this summer, just to name a few
- Incredible strides in development including a full time development position, the establishment of an endowment, and a doubling of total development revenues from 2001 to 2010
- Most importantly, Dr. Wunner has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of students, their parents, the faculty, and numerous alumni and trustees.

We believe it is clear that as a direct result of Dr. Wunner's leadership and hard work Wyndcroft is now a stronger, financially healthier school known for its excellent faculty, strong academics, care for students, and supportive parents that together prepare children well for success in some of the best secondary schools in the country. As such the school is ideally positioned to successfully continue its mission and attract outstanding head of school candidates to lead the school.

The search has already begun and the Board is committed to a thorough process to find the right new Head for Wyndcroft. To that end the Board is working with John Littleford, a nationally known and highly experienced search consultant for heads of schools, who has worked with Wyndcroft over the years and so knows our school and its culture. Jackie Lurio, a past parent, who has been a trustee since 1999 and is currently vice president of the Board, has graciously agreed to be the Chair of the Search Committee.

Your suggestions for possible head of school candidates, specific concerns or comments can be sent to an email account ([search@wyndcroft.org](mailto:search@wyndcroft.org)) we have created specifically to facilitate communication with the Search Committee. Thank you ahead of time for your support of this process. Of course, we all can trust that Dr. Wunner will continue to work diligently in her last year to continue to move the school forward.

Sincerely,

David B. Allain, Board of Trustees, President

Joseph M. Donley, Board of Trustees, Past President