



**AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE
HEAD OF SCHOOL & BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

April 4, 2023

Dear MCA Community,

I write to you to announce that next year will be my final year as Head of School at Mother Caroline Academy & Education Center. I am planning on retiring in June of 2024 as I wind down my 35-year career in education and administration. I started my journey as a teacher, then Department Chair, then Principal, then Head of School and I have enjoyed working with students, faculty, and families in a variety of schools, both public and private.

The opportunity to lead MCA was the perfect ending to my career as I truly love the challenge of evening the playing field for students who are under resourced. This mission driven school has improved and matured yearly, and I was thrilled to lead the initiation of the strategic plan to become the only all girl's, tuition free elementary and middle school in the city of Boston. I am grateful to have had such an amazing, passionate Leadership Team. I am grateful to the faculty and staff who never tire in empowering our students to become the shining stars they will be. I am thankful for the partnership of the MCA Board of Trustees over the years.

As I move to the next step in my life, I am excited to see what the future holds for MCA. We will celebrate our 30th year anniversary next year and continue to shape the lives, through education and the magic of MCA, for young women. As the school searches for and identifies a new head of school, I look forward to working together to help with the transition and continue the work of this "small but mighty" school.

Warmly,

Annmarie Quezada
Head of School

April 4, 2023

Dear MCA Community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am writing to announce that Head of School, Annmarie Quezada, recently shared with us her intention to retire in June 2024. We are immensely grateful for Annmarie's outstanding leadership and dedication to Mother Caroline Academy & Education Center and look forward to celebrating her legacy with all of you over the next 15 months.

During Annmarie's tenure as Head of School, she led our community with remarkable vision through several significant moments from the school's expansion recommendation to MCA's 10-year reaccreditation with the Association of Independent Schools in New England (AISNE). Annmarie increased student enrollment by over 75% since 2018, protected the school's financial position by identifying key efficiencies, and leveraged key partnerships to increase MCA's visibility in the city of Boston.

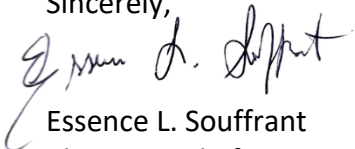
She led the school extraordinarily well through the unprecedented challenges of a global pandemic which directly impacted our community. Annmarie carefully balanced health and safety while going above and beyond to meet the needs and concerns of both families and teachers. Annmarie has proven to be an exceptional leader and her legacy will live on in both the students and educators she's mentored and coached throughout her professional journey.

By giving the Board ample notice of her retirement, she ensured that the transition in leadership will be thoughtful and measured, and we are excited for what lies ahead. Trustee Laurie Bevier is chair of the Head of School search committee. After a thorough process, the Board retained the professional expertise of Storbeck Search, a nationally recognized firm specializing in the recruitment of Heads of Schools and leaders of undergraduate institutions. Together with the search committee and with participation from the entire MCA community, the Board of Trustees will appoint a new Head of School ready to take on leadership in July 2024.

Leadership transition is an exciting time for any school, and we will keep you continually informed. Please look for emails and communications from us over the coming weeks. As members of the MCA community your input and involvement will be critical as we choose the school's next leader.

We look forward to celebrating Annmarie's tenure with all of you while we plan for MCA's future and building on the exceptionally strong foundation of our 30-year-old school.

Sincerely,



Essence L. Souffrant
Chair, Board of Trustees