

Dear Lerner Community,

After a comprehensive and international search supported by the important feedback of parents, students, alumni, faculty, staff and members of the Lerner community, the Board of Trustees is delighted to announce the appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Null as Lerner's Head of School.

Beth comes to us from MetroWest Jewish Day School outside of Boston, where she serves as Director of Community Advancement and second in command to the Head of School. We look forward to welcoming Beth, her husband Michael, and their two children, Ellie and Josh, to the Lerner community.

Those of you who had the pleasure of meeting Beth when she visited Lerner as a finalist know that she is a bright, thoughtful, engaging and energetic leader with strong communication skills. Her personal and professional experiences demonstrate her exceptional commitment to Lerner's values of academic excellence, Jewish culture, pluralism and ethical thinking. The Board is confident and enthusiastic about Beth's ability to honor our past and also to move us forward as a national leader in progressive Jewish education.

Beth has had experience in the for-profit world and also in the private school sector as a teacher and most recently, as an administrator. At MetroWest Jewish Day School, her leadership resulted in strengthened admissions and tuition programs, a successful long-term marketing plan and the enhancement of programs supporting the school's deep commitment to community. Furthermore, Beth has a proven track record in the areas of operations, management, donor stewardship and parent relations.

Prior to MetroWest, Beth owned and operated a successful tutoring company in the Boston area and served as lead English teacher of the Willow Hill School where she wrote and developed the school-wide literature and composition curricula.

When asked about becoming our next head of school, Beth said "I am excited to join the Lerner community. When we visited, I was struck by the warmth of the community, the joy of the children in their classrooms, and the dedication of the faculty. I look forward to getting to know each and every member of the community."

The appointment of Beth marks the end of a thorough and intensive search for the best head of school match for Lerner. The Search Committee spent countless hours in conjunction with Lydia Musher from Atid Services to gather community input, formulate a job description, screen and interview candidates, talk to references and work through feedback for finalists from all stakeholders in the community. We are so incredibly grateful for our search committee's service to our community and their tireless efforts to find Beth.

Annie Klapper, Morris Wallack, Norma Gindes, Sheila Goldstein, Robert Gutman, Jill Madsen, Bryna Rapp, Nathan Somers and Marla Tuchinsky – on behalf of the entire Lerner community: thank you!

Beth's appointment will begin July 1, 2018. We are excited about Kersten Biehn's continued leadership during the rest of the school year as interim Head of School and are grateful for her willingness to lead Lerner through this transition. Her dedication to and support of Lerner are invaluable, as is that of our entire faculty and staff.

While Beth and her family will be moving to the Triangle in June 2018, she has already begun the transition process. We will soon appoint a transition committee to welcome Beth, introduce and orient her and her family to Durham and Lerner, answer the many questions they will have, and serve as a resource for them during the transition.

We look forward to introducing Beth to you as our next Head of School and working with her to write Lerner's next chapter. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Good Lerner-ing,  
Norah Goldman, President of the Lerner Board of Directors