

Dear Beauvoir Community,

On behalf of the Governing Board, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs. Cindi Gibbs-Wilborn as Beauvoir's sixth Head of School, beginning in July 2018. Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn was approved unanimously by the Search Committee, Beauvoir's Governing Board, and the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation Board, the governing entity on the Cathedral Close.

Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn, an experienced administrative leader and teacher in independent schools, impressed the Search Committee and Governing Board with her strategic thinking, educational philosophy, embrace of the Episcopal tradition, results-oriented management skills, and deep appreciation of and commitment to Beauvoir's diverse community. Please read Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn's welcome letter here.

Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn currently serves as head of school at Hanahau'oli, a JK-6 school in Honolulu, Hawaii. In this position, she has been responsible for developing and advancing the vision for the school in close collaboration with the Board of Trustees. She also led faculty in reviewing and revising curriculum to ensure continuity, alignment, and meaningful and memorable learning experiences; developed a customized, continuum-based process for student progress reports; and built a faculty evaluation process with clear standards that is rooted in growth and flexibility. Other accomplishments have included the renovation of an outdoor learning and play space; the completion of the school's reaccreditation; and increasing the school's annual fund. She previously served as head of lower school at Providence Day School in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she led a division of 600 students in TK-5.

A familiar face on the Close, Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn began her independent school career at Beauvoir. Over the course of her twelve-year tenure at the school, she served as both administrator and teacher. She founded and directed the Beauvoir Center for Teaching and Learning, a public-private partnership for educators from around the country to receive year-round professional development opportunities. In addition to the wealth of knowledge she brings from her work in other schools, she is deeply committed to Beauvoir's mission, vision, and life rules.

Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn is also a published writer and blogger on education-related topics, an active member of several industry associations, and a 2018 Fellow with the Klingenstein Center's Heads of Schools program at Columbia University's Teachers College. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master of Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and has conducted doctoral work in curriculum and instruction at the University of Maryland.

Selecting Beauvoir's next head of school is the most important responsibility of this Governing Board, and I am deeply grateful to everyone who participated in the process. I would like to offer my profound appreciation to the Search Committee, led by co-chairs Enu Mainigi (Parent '13, Parent '16, Parent '18)* and Lauralyn Lee (Parent '16, Parent '18), for dedicating an extraordinary amount of time, thoughtful energy, and integrity to this extensive process. Thank

you also to all the committee members: Nancy Carr* (Parent '85, Parent '88, Parent '94, Grandparent '20), Elanor Cato (Faculty, Parent '00, Parent '03), Megan Chounoune (Faculty), Brooke Coburn (Parent '12, Parent '14, Parent '21), Charis Drant*(Parent '15, Parent '18, Parent '20), Elizabeth Eastwick (Faculty, Parent '19, Parent '22, Parent ELC), Rocky Galloway (Parent of twins '18), Billy Kappaz* (Parent '16, Parent '17), Cathie Martin* (Parent '15, Parent '17, Parent '18), and Tamika Smith-Jackson* (Parent '16, Parent '20). I also would like to thank all of you who shared your impressions of these candidates in the forums and online survey. In fact, our search firm, Brigham Hill Consultancy, shared that the rate of participation in the survey was among the highest it has ever seen, which shows the extraordinary care and commitment of the Beauvoir community.

Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn will succeed Mr. Michael Eanes, Interim Head of School. I want to extend my thanks to Mr. Eanes for his steady hand, enthusiasm, energy, and deep dedication to Beauvoir's success over the last year. I look forward to celebrating his contributions with all of you in the months to come.

On behalf of the entire Governing Board, we are thrilled to introduce Mrs. Gibbs-Wilborn to the Beauvoir community and welcome her, her husband Larry, and their two children to Beauvoir this summer. Together, we reaffirm our deep commitment to young children and the pursuit of excellence in early elementary education.

Yours Sincerely,

Rhonda Schmidlein
Chair, Beauvoir Governing Board