

NEWS RELEASE

New Head of School Named at Topeka Collegiate



Topeka Collegiate School has hired a new Head of School. Mary Beth Marchiony will begin work full-time on July 1, 2011. She is the first woman to serve as Head of School at Topeka Collegiate School during its nearly three-decade-long history.

Marchiony is Senior Associate Director for Academic and Career Counseling at Kansas University's Athletics Department. She brings 17 years of independent school experience to Topeka Collegiate, having served in leadership positions at two highly regarded independent schools, Park Tudor School in Indianapolis and Pembroke Hill School in Kansas City.

Marchiony also earned a prestigious credential from Columbia University's Teachers College in New York, where she was named a Klingenstein Fellow. The Klingenstein is a year-long fellowship for select independent school educators.

"I am pleased to welcome Mary Beth to the Topeka Collegiate community," said John Dietrick, Board of Trustees President. "After an exhaustive national search, the Board has found the best person for our school. Mary Beth is an outstanding educational leader with extensive experience in independent schools. We are confident her vision and leadership will successfully guide our School forward."

Marchiony replaces Dick Patterson, who has served as Topeka Collegiate Head of School since January 2009.

"I am excited and energized by this outstanding opportunity, and look forward to joining the Topeka Collegiate family," said Marchiony. "Dick and the faculty and staff have done a superb job of creating a positive climate and educational opportunities for our students. I'm eager to work with the team to build on the academic excellence and leadership development that are the hallmarks of a Collegiate education."