

# The Town School

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Dear Town Community,

I am thrilled, honored, and humbled to join The Town School as your next Head and to begin work in July with your remarkable community.

From the moment I walked through Town's front doors, the learning felt so alive and I felt so at home. During my two-day interview process, I visited Kindergarten during choice time, observed a 2nd grade math lesson on sorting, and dropped in on a 7th grade English discussion of Hinton's *The Outsiders*. In each setting, students were engaged, challenged, and yes...joyful! What a tribute to the community, particularly the teachers, who make this happen. I appreciated the conversations I had with so many faculty, administrators, staff, parents, and students during my visit; your love for this school is evident, and I now share it.

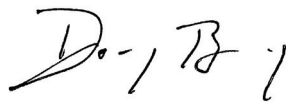
One of the best ways to know a school is through its students, and I first got to know Town through (now lifelong) friends who attended the school when I was growing up in New York. Much more recently I have worked with and taught Town alumnae attending Spence, and I have been consistently impressed with the way Town graduates dive into high school with confidence, a willingness to take risks, and readiness to join in and to lead. Finally, my experiences during the search process these past months have deepened my understanding of Town students as uniquely collaborative, empathetic, self-directed learners and problem solvers.

Spend any time at Town and you will hear the word community over and over. Through observation and many great discussions, I have come to understand community as both a cherished aspect of Town's culture as well as a true source of strength that serves the school's educational goals. Town's ongoing conversations about diversity and inclusion demonstrate a profound understanding of the power of community to affirm individual worth and create a robust exchange of ideas.

I am deeply grateful to the Search Committee, the Board of Trustees and to everyone with whom I met for your hospitality, your guidance, and especially for the invitation to join Town as your next Head of School. It will be an honor to become part of this team of educators dedicated to the N-8 model, to academic excellence, and to *joy with purpose*. I am humbled by the legacy, mission and values so clearly at the core of Town, and I am excited to work with all constituents to continue building on over 100 years of success, including the outstanding leadership of Tony Featherston.

I look forward to opportunities to meet and talk with all of you over the coming months to learn more about what you love about your school and how we can collaborate to continue moving Town forward. On behalf of my wife Barbara and daughter Allegra, thank you for welcoming us into your community.

Warm regards,



Douglas Brophy

# Town.