



Subject: HOS Search - Angela Taylor Appointed Head of School  
October 15, 2019

Dear Park Day Family,

**The Board of Trustees is excited to announce the appointment of Angela Taylor as Park Day's next Head of School, beginning July 1, 2020.**

Angela's appointment represents the culmination of a thoughtful and exhaustive year-long, global search involving the entire Park Day family of parents, teachers, administrative staff, and community members. The goal of the Search Committee's work was to identify a leader that would be able to support Park Day as it stands today, while successfully guiding our school through its next era as a leader in Progressive Education. The Search Committee provided a highly confident and united recommendation to the Board to appoint Angela to lead Park Day School. The Park Day Board of Trustees has enthusiastically accepted the Search Committee's recommendation.

Angela's qualifications and knowledge of progressive pedagogy and school operations are exemplary. Angela's professional and personal journeys have shown her to be a genuinely caring, committed and confident leader. Her dedication to children, and child centered learning along with her layered knowledge and understanding of social justice, diversity and inclusion are in perfect harmony with Park Day's mission and values.

Since her formative teaching years in Atlanta and Oakland, Angela has brought her "satchel" of progressive teaching ingredients fully infusing them into every organization she joined. She has demonstrated that she is a profoundly introspective educator who is imbued with a deep knowledge of progressive pedagogy. She has both the ability and desire to return to her roots, to what she has said Park Day represents for her *"The more and more I immersed myself into Park Day School, the more and more I felt like I was coming home."*

Angela is a highly experienced administrator, with many years in senior administrative roles. Angela's knowledge of the educational setting in the Bay Area and Oakland in particular was a rarity among candidates, and uniquely equips her to have a powerful start when she joins Park Day next school year.

In looking for our next Head of School, the Search Committee assessed the credentials of a multitude of candidates. The Committee brought to campus over a half dozen semi-finalists to interview in person. Through these conversations and interactions, Angela exhibited all of the characteristics that the Search Committee was looking for in a candidate to lead our school into a vibrant future.

Before arriving at a final decision, the Search Committee thoroughly reviewed the many thoughts and observations that the community shared following Angela's two-day campus visit. Community feedback was very consistent with the observations of the Search Committee and the broader Board of Trustees. *"Angela had me in tears throughout her presentation (Tuesday night.) She truly understands the value of progressive education and wants to improve all aspects of Park Day to benefit our students. She is student-focused."* *"She is real, she has emotions, she has depth, she can make tough decisions and also be caring."* Additionally, the feedback revealed enthusiasm for Angela's ability to coach and mentor teachers, partner with parents/guardians, and successfully lead change where change is required. The weight and consistency of this feedback allowed the Search Committee to move forward with even greater confidence in recommending Angela's appointment.

As we move through the remainder of this school year, our Board of Trustees will continue to work closely with Erik Carlson on the tremendous work that is currently underway across our institution. Simultaneously, we will begin planning for Angela's arrival to ensure a smooth leadership transition. In the spring of 2020, we will schedule campus visits with Angela and provide an opportunity to those of you who have not met her personally to introduce yourselves. Please look for additional communications about these events in the months to come.

Finally, we wholeheartedly thank each of you who have invested time, effort, energy, and passion into the Head of School search process. Each candidate that visited our campus was amazed by the profound warmth, engagement and excitement that greeted them as they walked through our gates.

For over 40 years, the Park Day School and community have valued and practiced a love of learning and honored each learner's journey-- children and adults. We remain committed to the love of learning and to being a welcoming community of engaged, lifelong learners. On behalf of our Search Committee and Board of Trustees, we are thrilled to welcome a visionary leader who is the embodiment of our most deeply held beliefs. Welcome to Park Day Angela, welcome home!

In Community,

Germaine Hunter  
Chair, Board of Trustees

Noam Ragins & Manisha Patel  
Trustees & Search Committee Co-Chairs