



A Letter from Dr. Lori-Anne S. Brogdon to the MPA Community

Dear Mounds Park Academy Community,

I am absolutely delighted and honored to accept the board of trustees' offer to serve as Mounds Park Academy's next head of school.

The moment my husband and I pulled into MPA's parking lot and stepped foot into the building, we turned to each other and smiled. Simply put, walking into the building instantly evoked a feeling of home within me, and he knew it. Within the first hour of my visit, I was greeted by two kindergarten students who presented me with a button that displayed 1-4-3 (I love you). It was one of many special moments I experienced with students throughout my time on campus. As I saw Upper School students share their reflections about inflation, Middle School students explain advisory, and Lower School students learn about measurement by outlining their bodies, I was struck not only by their critical thinking skills but also their natural desire to welcome me into their learning spaces with absolute pride and joy. I was reminded at every twist and turn throughout the campus how deeply the Mounds Park Academy faculty and staff value and commit to developing a strong and challenging curriculum that is matched with wonder and play.

As I shared during my exit interview with the search committee, I was incredibly impressed by the number of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and families who attended sessions. Each group asked thoughtful and important questions directed toward getting to the heart of learning more about me as both an educator and a human being. With each question I received, I also learned what is important and what is on the minds of those who love Mounds Park Academy. I could feel in my conversations that those I interacted with listened with intent and came from a place of care. I felt an underlying hope that the next head of school would remain committed to building upon the already steady and strong foundations that MPA had established, coupled with an excitement to explore and grow in new ways. Above all else, it is abundantly clear that the next Head of School should maintain the deep sense of community and belonging that are essential components of what has made Mounds Park Academy incredibly special since its founding.

As a science and math teacher at heart, curiosity and creation drive my daily interactions with those around me. From this point forward, I eagerly await the day I join Mounds Park Academy in July 2025. Until then, I look forward to the opportunities to connect and establish relationships before my arrival.

My parents raised me to dream big, work hard, and do what is right. Knowing that I am joining a school where everyone is encouraged to dream big and do right, it is hard not to feel that love and excitement!

With much appreciation,
Dr. Lori-Anne S. Brogdon