

February 25, 2010



Dear fellow TBS families,

As you all know, Janet Stork's medical treatment program has necessitated her being away from school for far longer than we – or she – anticipated. In light of this, and in consultation with Janet, Zaq, and the administrative team, the Board of Trustees has voted to appoint Mitch Bostian, current Middle School Director, as Head of School on an interim basis, until Janet is able to return to school. I also met with the teachers regarding this appointment, and their reaction was very positive.

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Please do not assume that this adjustment is due to a change in Janet's health. Her test results are heading in the right direction, but she is not yet ready to return to work. Our expectation is still that Janet will return as Head of School as soon as she fully recovers. Until then, she will continue to support Mitch and TBS in a consulting capacity. This will leave her free from managing the day-to-day school business, as she has been doing, and allow her to focus her energies on recovering.

Janet originally hired Mitch because of his passion for the educational vision they share, as well as for his impressive management and leadership capabilities and experience. Thanks to this foresight, we are able to move forward now in an almost seamless manner.

For those of you who don't yet know Mitch well, he began teaching English twenty years ago, after graduating from the University of Chicago, and he has an M.Ed. in Organization and Leadership from USF. He came to us from Mount Tamalpais School in Mill Valley, where he served as English department chair and Dean of Faculty. Mitch is also the founder of Teachers' Education Network (TEN), an organization dedicated to providing professional development for teachers interested in using brain research to optimize learning in cognitively diverse classrooms. Mitch's three daughters all attend TBS, and his wife, Joan, is the procurement chair for this year's auction. As a parent, a teacher, and an administrator, he is committed to the long-term vision that drives TBS.

Zaq Roberts will return to his role as Associate Head, as is his wish. Huge thanks to Zaq for stepping into the unexpected and demanding job of Acting Head; his dedication has been inspiring. Together, Mitch, Zaq, and ECC Director Andrea Gordon will ensure that all administrative responsibilities, including Mitch's former duties as Middle School Director, are covered, and will lead the school in providing our children with the progressive, demanding, and engaging education for which we all chose TBS.

And if you have somehow managed not to meet Mitch at one of the many community events so far this year, we invite you to come have coffee with him at 8:30 am on Monday, March 1 at the EI/MS campus or at 9:00 am on Tuesday morning at Village Grounds, near the ECC. We will also be hosting an evening wine and cheese open house on Wednesday, March 3, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, if mornings are not convenient for you.

I hope you will join me and the rest of the Board in giving Mitch our support and confidence and our thanks for being so willing to step forward and undertake this role.

Sincerely,

Ann Fischer Hecht  
Chair, TBS Board of Trustees

P.S. We all want to help Janet in her recovery. Stay tuned next week for how you can participate!