

Meet the Incoming Upper School Principal



Kinkaid will start the 2010-2011 school year with a new Upper School Principal, **Mr. Patrick Loach**. After the long search, Headmaster **Don North** announced that Mr. Loach, who comes here from The Collegiate School in Richmond, Virginia, accepted Kinkaid's offer and would be continuing the school's long legacy of distinguished leaders.

Needless to say, the Kinkaid community was very excited to hear the news. Commenting on the results of the search, Mr. North said that "Patrick Loach has extensive experience in independent schools that when coupled with his intelligence, energy, sense of humor, integrity, and commitment to educating young people, he emerged as the clear choice in the search process. Our impressions of Mr. Loach were confirmed in recommendation letters and in personal reference calls. The head of school at Collegiate, who knows Kinkaid's reputation and stature well, described Mr. Loach to me as a key leader at Collegiate School and a seasoned professional who is fully ready to lead a first-rate, high-expectation upper school."

A native of New York, Mr. Loach already has ties to Texas. His wife of 10 years, Emily, was born in Corpus Christi and the couple is looking forward to moving back to the Lone Star

State. Mr. & Mrs. Loach have one son, Charlie, who will join the first grade at Kinkaid next year. Mr. Loach earned a B.A. in History from the State University of New York at Geneseo and a M.Ed. in Instructional Technology as well as a M.S. in Management of Information Technology from the University of Virginia. For the past 15 years, he has served in a number of capacities at the Collegiate School, a nationally

and staff, as well as meeting parents. "The process seemed like a whirlwind and I wished I could have met more people and spent more time with the people I did meet. What I did learn is that Kinkaid is a special place filled with dedicated teachers and wonderful students. I cannot wait to be on campus and begin learning more about the history and culture of the school and figuring out

performances, and most of all cheer on the Falcons.

To Mr. Loach, the most important part of his job will be to forge strong relationships with the Kinkaid community so that he can be looked to for guidance and support on challenging issues. In a school that has such deep roots, Mr. Loach believes he will need to "rely on students, faculty, and staff to teach him about what makes Kinkaid special." He states that it is his hope that through his relationship building efforts, his "colleagues on the faculty and staff will see him as someone they can trust and rely on as a professional and personal resource." At the same time, Mr. Loach hopes that "students will come to know him as someone who has their best interests at heart and cares deeply about their success and well being." When asked what he thinks is the most important thing he brings to the table, Mr. Loach responded, "my energy and excitement, my experience, and my respect and admiration for the work teachers and coaches do every day in the classrooms, theatre and studios, and on the playing fields and courts." A former teacher, Mr. Loach understands the challenges of leading a classroom and can relate to the issues faced by students.

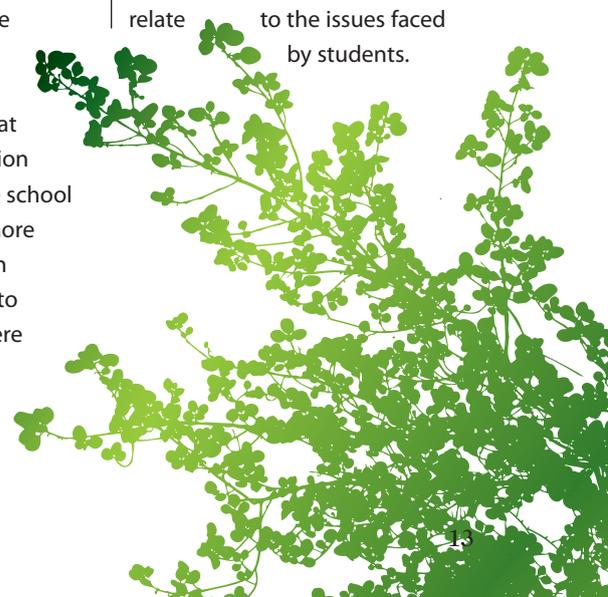
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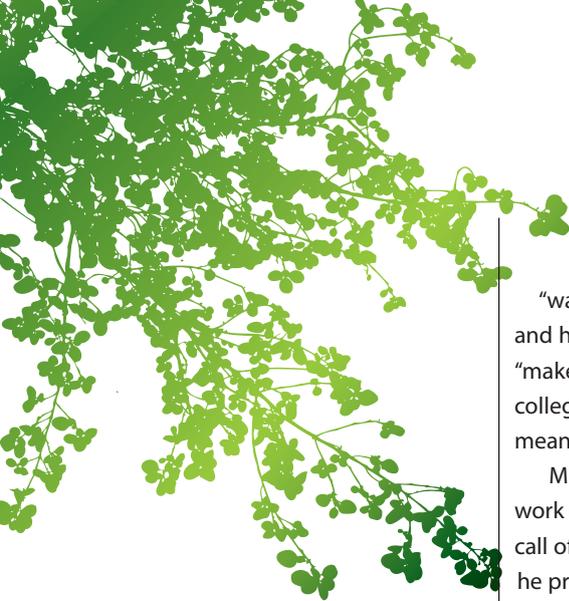
~ Patrick Loach, Incoming Upper School Principal

recognized coeducational day school. From 1995-2006, Mr. Loach was the Collegiate School Director of Technology and has, for the last four years, been serving as the Assistant Head of Upper School. During this time, Mr. Loach spent one year as the Acting Head of Upper School.

While Mr. Loach will not take the reins until the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, he has already been hard at work planning for his arrival. When asked what his goals are for his first year, Mr. Loach said he is looking forward to getting to know the students, the faculty

how I can be a part of building upon the success of one of the finest independent preparatory schools in the country." Mr. Loach also embraced the curriculum mapping efforts currently underway and thinks that the technology integration at Kinkaid is moving the school in the right direction. More than anything, Mr. Loach reiterated, he is excited to visit the classrooms where he can interact with the teachers and students, attending school concerts and





Search Committee

Roni Atnipp
Parent

Jewel Crosswell
Senior, Peer Mentor

Dan Bishop
Chair, Fine Arts Department

Robin Doran
Head Upper School Dean

Jim Dunaway
Dean of Faculty

Stacey Marshall
*Coach, Upper School & Coordinator
of New Student Support*

Tad Mayfield
Parent, Trustee

William Montgomery
Senior, Governing Council President

Jane Murdock
Upper School French Teacher

David Oelman
Parent, Trustee

Kathy Sangalis
Parent

Tom Simmons
Chair, Board of Trustees

At Collegiate, Mr. Loach had a reputation for “walking with a purpose” and he says that he strives to “make every interaction with colleges, students, and parents meaningful.”

Mr. Loach’s dedication to his work extends beyond the normal call of duty. When asked what he prefers to do with his free time, he said his first preference would be to attend the “athletic contests and arts performances” of his students. “I genuinely enjoy watching and supporting them” he says. One thing in particular that excites Mr. Loach is the fact that “in Texas, sports are undoubtedly on another level” and he can’t wait to see the Kinkaid students face the best competition around. In a sign that Mr. Loach will fit right in here in Texas, he said that college football is one of his favorite pastimes and he can’t wait to see a Longhorns or Aggies football game. Outside of work, Mr. Loach says that he likes to stay busy reading about history, working in his yard, and when his schedule permits, riding his mountain bike or skiing.

During the search for a new Upper School Principal, Mr. North wanted to make sure that the candidate selected would not only appeal to the faculty but also to the students. He included two students on the search committee that eventually selected Mr. Loach for the position. **William Montgomery '11** and **Jewel Crosswell '11** were chosen to represent the student body and were involved throughout the interviewing process. When asked about the experience, William stated that “at first, it was all very intimidating. Everyone else in the room besides Jewel and myself were professionals and had done this kind of thing before.” As time went on,

however, “we were encouraged to actively participate in the interviews and once I started to get the hang of it, I really enjoyed the process.” Jewel described the experience similarly. “As an 18-year old, it was such a learning experience for me because I had never even had an interview” she said. “Also, I didn’t realize how much of a ‘say’ William and I had in the meetings until I got there and it was clear that we were just as much a part of the search team as all of the other adults.” Both Jewel and William described how the experience made them respect how much the administration wanted the students to be involved in this process and reinforced their message that the opinion of the student body is important to them. “I think that Mr. North’s insistence on having student representation on the committee says a lot about Kinkaid,” stated William. “Kinkaid certainly didn’t have to let Jewel and I sit on the committee...it was a tremendous honor to be chosen as one of the student representatives.” When asked what they were looking for in a new Upper School Principal, William and Jewel had a similar message. “Above all,” Jewel stated, “I wanted someone who would listen to the students when they had suggestions, problems, or any other sort of issue and basically be the student body’s ‘cheerleader’ regarding things we wanted to see or change.” Jewel then went on to say that she also wanted “a *literal* cheerleader that would be serious in the office, but also be able to change gears and go crazy at pep rallies and dress up at Halloween.” William feels that Kinkaid has found this in Mr. Loach. “Right from the beginning, I was very impressed by how much he already knew about Kinkaid. He obviously

really liked Kinkaid and was genuinely excited about working here” recalled William. “I really enjoyed our interview with him because he’s such an engaging person. No matter what he was talking about, he had me excited! He has lots of new ideas of ways to make Kinkaid better...but most importantly, I feel like even a new freshman would be comfortable walking into his office and talking to him. He really stood out to me during the interview process and I’m absolutely thrilled that he is coming to work here next year!”

With the search for a new Upper School Principal being far reaching and exhaustive, both the faculty and students are confident that the best person has been selected for the job. Mr. Loach, welcome to the Kinkaid family!

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~ William Montgomery '11