



Announcement from the Board of Trustees

February 15, 2019

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Dear Maple Street School Community,

It is with great pleasure that I announce the Board of Trustees' unanimous decision to welcome Dr. Caroline "Cricket" Mikheev as the fourth Head of Maple Street School, beginning July 1, 2019. Joined by her husband Artem and their four children, Cricket enthusiastically brings her educational expertise to Manchester, Vermont, an area that she knows and loves. Some of her fondest memories are skiing Stratton, swimming at the Manchester Rec, and celebrating her marriage in Londonderry. Calling this area home has been a long standing wish of hers.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Chuck Burdick and the dedicated Search Committee he so ably chaired. A career educator, Chuck brought 12 years of professional search consulting experience to enrich and shepherd our work. Partnering with Jean Lamont of Educators' Collaborative, our Search Committee conducted a robust national search, and was humbled by the wide range of highly qualified candidates from near and far. Additionally, Maple Street's strong faculty, staff, parents, and Board engaged whole-heartedly in this extensive search process. We especially thank Head of School Fanning Hearon for his leadership and assistance with the transition ahead.

Dr. Mikheev studied Russian Language and Literature at Carleton College and Columbia University. Her doctoral work in school psychology at Columbia's Teachers College led her to practice at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Birch Wathen Lenox, and Mandell Schools in New York City, working with children from pre-school to 12th grade. As she recently noted, "In my work as a school counselor, I often reflected on how schools could integrate psychological principles into their daily workings to make life better for students, teachers, and families. This is when I realized how my psychological perspective on students and their learning informed my strong interest in school leadership." To that end of working to become a school leader, Cricket received a Master's in Independent School Leadership from Columbia University's Klingenstein Center.

Currently, Dr. Mikheev is finishing four years of service as the Head of the Lower School, grades Pre K – 5, at Sewickley Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. With her expertise in social-emotional learning and developmental psychology, Cricket has collaborated with her team of teachers and staff to evaluate the rigorous academic curriculum; diversity, equity and inclusivity; character education; and service learning. She guided both the reinvention of Sewickley's Pre K/K, and the year-long review and update of the elementary math program.

Cricket has supervised curriculum efforts in Pre K/K programming, science, social studies, math, Readers and Writers Workshop, conflict resolution, differentiated instruction, and assessment. She has taught toddler classes, wellness to middle schoolers, and educational assessment practices to graduate students.

In alignment with the core values of Maple Street School, Cricket brings a balanced approach to our joyful academic community. She embraces reflection with collaboration, and guidance with strong leadership.

Please join the Board in congratulating and welcoming Cricket and the Mikheevs to our Maple Street family, and to our educational community.

Sincerely,

Amy Panitz
Chair, Board of Trustees
Maple Street School
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