

MARYVALE

Dear Maryvale Community,

As Chair of the Maryvale Board of Trustees and close partner with President Malika DeLancey in the leadership of our school, I want to reflect on her announcement to conclude her service as President of Maryvale Preparatory School at the end of the 2026–2027 academic year and share our plan for moving forward.

A long-considered decision, Malika shared that as her family approaches a milestone at the end of the next school year, she too is ready to plan for her next chapter. Malika came to Maryvale to help guide us through an important period of transition. Together, the community has centered around the Hallmarks of a Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur learning community and developed a strategic plan. As the school moves into its next chapter, Malika felt this was the right moment for us to begin planning for the next long-term leader to carry on the excellence and tradition that is Maryvale.

Malika has led Maryvale with joy, purpose, and a deep belief in the promise of our students and the impact they will have on the world. During her tenure, she has brought unity, energy, and forward momentum to our community. The Board is deeply grateful for Malika's many contributions, and we look forward to her partnership in ensuring a well-planned and steady transition.

Identifying the right leader to succeed Malika is among the most important responsibilities entrusted to the Board. We are committed to a thoughtful and rigorous search for a president who embodies the values expressed in the Hallmarks, lives our mission, and is deeply committed to educating young women for lives of faith, service and leadership.

To that end, the following actions are underway:

- The Board of Trustees is forming a **Presidential Search Committee**, chaired by Board members **Marty Sweeney**, retired head of The Odyssey School, and **Heather Smith Harvison '89**, Maryvale alum and President and CEO, Full Circle, Inc. and Founder and Executive Director, Sisters Circle, Inc. The search committee will seek input from representatives with expertise in education, business, leadership, and Catholic teaching. Its membership will be announced on the Maryvale website shortly.
- To ensure access to a strong and diverse pool of candidates, the Board will partner with **Educators Collaborative**, a search firm composed of former Heads

of School and senior educational leaders who bring decades of experience to leadership searches, governance advice, and transition planning. They see Maryvale's Head of School search "as a transformative opportunity to secure leadership that will sustain Maryvale's tradition of excellence while inspiring its next era of innovation and impact."

- Educators Collaborative will be on campus in April/May to meet our community members and understand all that makes Maryvale special as the process begins.
- Our timeline includes welcoming finalist candidates to campus to meet with members of the Maryvale community in the fall of this year, with the selection of a new President by late 2026 to ensure a smooth leadership transition in partnership with Malika.

Maryvale has strong, tenured leaders for academics, admissions, enrollment, advancement, and beyond, who lead our community every day. In addition, the Board includes current and former Chairs with deep experience guiding the school through important transitions, complex moments, and significant institutional milestones.

Community engagement will be an important part of our plans and process going forward. We will invite input from students, parents, faculty, staff, alumnae, and community educators on the priorities and qualities most important for Maryvale's next chapter. Additional details about opportunities for engagement will be shared in April and May, and I will continue to keep you informed as the search progresses.

Thank you for your continued partnership and trust as we work together to select the next leader to steward the future of Maryvale Preparatory School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sherry Pudloski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sherry" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Pudloski".

Sherry Pudloski '85

Chair, Maryvale Board of Trustees