

Head of School Announced!

Dear Friends:

We are very pleased to announce that the Board of Managers has unanimously named Chad Cianfrani as Oakwood's 38th Head of School. Chad holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Brown University, and has served Oakwood for over a decade, most recently as Associate Head of Operations and Technology and Interim Head of School. Prior to Oakwood, Chad spent six years on Wall Street focusing on finance and technology.



Chad and his family have called Oakwood home for the last eleven years. During this time he has worn many hats, seeing Oakwood's mission and ethos play out in virtually every aspect of campus life. Through his first four years at Oakwood, Chad was a classroom teacher, dorm parent and coach. It is this engagement with the students and genuine love for the diverse learning community that continues to inspire him. Recently, he has overseen the Lighting the Way renovations of the Main Building Arts Wing and Lane Theater Music Spaces, and helped negotiate and coordinate the procurement of Oakwood's soon to be built ground-based solar array.

We are entirely confident in Chad's abilities and commitment to Oakwood's core values: academic and extra-curricular excellence, diversity and respect for others. We are delighted to be working with Chad to fulfill these goals and to formally welcome him and Sue as the new stewards of Oakwood Friends School.

Chad responded to his appointment as Head of School by saying: "I am excited and humbled by the opportunity to lead Oakwood forward. Oakwood is home to me and my family, and I cannot imagine a greater honor than to be entrusted with its leadership. I am fortunate to build on the foundation created during Peter Baily's fifteen year tenure and, together with our wonderful community, I will work to make a great school even greater."

We offer our sincere thanks to the ten current and former board members and faculty who served tirelessly on our search committee. The committee began its work over a year ago, carefully considering candidates from a deep national and international pool before recommending Chad to the Board of Managers. The search committee has served Oakwood exceptionally well.

We also offer our appreciation of the Oakwood alumni, parents, faculty, staff and students, who contributed meaningfully to the search process. You graciously welcomed our candidates, served as wonderful representatives of our community, and provided the search committee with invaluable insight, perspective and feedback. Finally, we would like to thank our administration, faculty and staff, who provided superb leadership and support through this time of transition.

Multiple exciting initiatives underway, innovative curricular offerings that extend beyond the classroom and a truly diverse campus community, speak to the heart of Oakwood's mission and vision. Beginning with Joseph Talcott in 1796 to a bit more recently with Peter Baily in 2015, Oakwood has nurtured a strong, inclusive learning environment grounded in Quaker principles. We know that Chad and the entire Oakwood community look forward with energy and excitement as we continue the journey.

Sincerely,

Libby Moroff
President, Board of Managers

Don Spencer
Clerk, search committee