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January 5, 2010

Dear members of the Friends School Mullica Hill community,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the unanimous decision of the Board of Trustees to appoint Bruce S. Haines as the next Head of School, effective July 1, 2010. A lifelong Quaker, Bruce brings rich experience and a deep commitment to Quaker education. He attended Moorestown Friends School, graduated from Westtown School, earned his bachelor's degree at Earlham College, and sent his children to Friends schools. He has been, since 2001, the clerk of the Board of Trustees at Westtown School, and he has served as the Chair of the Development Committee of the Friends Hospital Board of Managers and as Secretary and Chair of the Governance Committee at the Thomas Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation.

For most of his professional life, Bruce was an attorney, practicing law at Cohen Shapiro Polisher Shiekman & Cohen (where he became a partner) and at Hanglely Aronchick Segal & Pudlin (where he was a shareholder). In both positions he worked closely with younger lawyers helping them develop effective communication and leadership skills. Bruce left the field of law for non-profit work so that, as he told the Search committee, he could focus on growing something positive for the future and not just resolving disputes about mistakes made in the past. Since retiring from the practice of law, his clerking at Westtown, his leadership of the Pennsylvania chapter of the non-profit organization Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D) and his work with the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) have helped prepare him to become the Head of School at Friends School Mullica Hill.

Above and beyond his experience, however, the Board of Trustees was moved by Bruce's personal qualities, his deep research and preparation for his visit to Friends School Mullica Hill, and his overall commitment to children and Friends Education. Bruce's extensive experience with fundraising and development was of critical importance in the Board's decision.

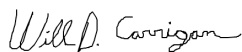
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Throughout his visit to Mullica Hill Friends, Bruce interacted with faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni parents, Trustees, and other friends of the school. Collectively, these interactions provided essential feedback to the Search committee. They cited Bruce’s familiarity with Quaker education and independent schools as major strengths and described Bruce as having “heart” and “vision” as well as “financial acumen.” Community members were also attracted to Bruce’s “collaborative leadership style.”

Bruce himself adds, “I am thrilled to be joining the Friends School Mullica Hill community. I have been aware of the strengths of the school for some years, but was even more deeply impressed when I visited during the search. Friends School has a wonderful vibe and energy. It truly is a place where Quaker values are evident in the daily program and interactions among and between students, teachers, parents and staff. I was impressed at the excellent work that has been done in recent years and the strong sense of readiness to press on in a continual effort to strengthen the school. It is not an overstatement to say that I fell in love with the school. I am very much looking forward to July and the chance to begin!”

Bruce will be following an extraordinary Head in Drew Smith. During the rest of the academic year, please join us in celebrating Drew’s remarkable accomplishments while we welcome Bruce and his wife Prudence into the FSMH family.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,



William Carrigan

Assistant Clerk, Board of Trustees

Clerk, Head of School Search Committee