



## Next Head of College Appointed to Hillfield Strathallan College

The Board of Governors is very pleased to announce the appointment of a new Head of College for Hillfield Strathallan College. Effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 Marc Ayotte, B.Comm., BEd., MEd., will join the HSC community, as Tom Matthews moves west to Vancouver in his new role as Headmaster of St. George's School.

Marc will become the 16th Head of College in the 109-year history of HSC and its predecessor schools, Highfield, Hillcrest, Hillfield, Strathallan and HSC. Marc is originally from Peterborough, Ontario, and is currently the Head of Senior School at Southridge School in Surrey, B.C. Prior to that he held faculty posts at Trinity College School, Ontario and Stanstead College, Quebec, and was a founding Director of the highly successful professional development institute known as 'Trinity Teachers' Institute.' ***"I am delighted that we have managed to secure a new Head of College who is so passionate about the direction and potential of HSC today. Marc's enthusiasm for education and developing the future leaders of our country, as well as his collaborative leadership style, will ensure that HSC continues to soar in the world of independent schools in North America,"*** said Board Chair, Dr. Jennifer Everson.

Marc will join Hillfield Strathallan College at a very exciting time in our development as one of Canada's leading independent schools. Under the tenure of current Head, Tom Matthews, HSC is recognized as a leader in the quest for advancing pedagogy and preparing our students for the exciting demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The imminent implementation of the 'Transformation HSC' project, the continued growth in our student enrolment, our exciting facilities renewal plans, the financial stability of the College and our increased profile and reputation at the local, Provincial and National levels have HSC poised for ever-greater achievements under Marc's leadership. When accepting the position Marc commented, ***"It is truly an honour for me to have been appointed as the Head of Hillfield Strathallan College. I feel a very strong connection to the Mission, Vision and Core Values of the school, and look forward to working with the students, staff, faculty and parents who make them come to life on a daily basis. HSC has an established reputation as a leading independent school and it is with great humility that I accept the responsibility inherent to this position."***

The consultative Search process indicated that our community wished for a new Head to build on the accomplishments of recent years, and the strengths of our excellent Strategic Plan, 'Making a World of Difference.' We required a leader with a proven record of fostering student-centred teaching and learning, as well as strong leadership skills in providing academic and administrative direction to all staff and faculty. Marc earned his academic qualifications at Queen's, McGill and Bishop's Universities and in his professional career has gained experience all aspects of independent school management. He brings extensive experience in the leadership of change, as highlighted by the successful implementation of a laptop technology program at Southridge, which is now the recognized leader in the integration of technology in British Columbia. Southridge has been formally recognized as the top-ranked academic program in B.C. in each of Marc's years as the Head of Senior School, while producing well-rounded graduates who have found success in university and beyond.

Marc and his wife, Kim will be moving east to join the HSC community with their two children, Griffin and Gillian, ages 7 and 5 respectively. We are very pleased that they have chosen to join the HSC community, and to help us build the next, exciting steps for the College. Please join us in welcoming them all!

Marc sent us the following message from B.C.:

*“This is a critical time for education in Canada. The graduates of HSC are entering a world with a unique set of challenges that will require a different kind of education than any other generation in history. I am confident that the fulfillment of the goals of Transformation HSC will not only provide our students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required of leaders capable of meeting these challenges, but will also further distinguish HSC as an innovative, forward-thinking school.*

*Most importantly to me as a husband and father, HSC is a great fit for our family. Great schools are all about relationships, and we have already felt warmly welcomed by the community at HSC. I will look forward to meeting and forging relationships with all of the members of the community fundamental to the College’s continued success.”*

