



Progressive education for preschool through 5th grade

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bixby School Names New “Head of School”

Boulder, Colorado – March 18, 2013 - The Bixby School Board of Trustees selected David Stringfield to be Bixby’s new Head of School, succeeding Pat Baker who co-founded the school with Harlan “Bart” Bartram in 1970. Pat is retiring after serving as Executive Director and teacher for the past 43 years.

David will officially assume the position on July 1, 2013. This announcement comes after a nine-month national search that yielded over forty highly-qualified, competitive candidates. The process was led by a ten-member Search Advisory Committee, chaired by Jane Theodore and comprised of Bixby board members, parents, staff, and administrators. Along with this qualified team, Pat Baker’s wisdom, experience, and embodiment of the Bixby culture supported the search throughout.

Lexie Wang, Bixby’s President of the Board of Trustees commented, “I’m deeply appreciative of everyone who was involved in the rigorous search and selection process and I’m very confident in David Stringfield’s abilities. He is a dynamic leader with a demonstrated ability to inspire children’s intellectual curiosity, engage and support an academic community, and manage both the personnel and financial resources of a school. His problem solving skills, innovative ideas, and concern for students’ individual needs have distinguished David as a highly committed and competent educator.”

The decision to appoint David Stringfellow to Head of School was a unanimous one by the Board based on his experience, creativity, and passion for elementary school education.

David comes to Bixby with 20 years of elementary school experience during which time he taught preschool and all elementary grade levels in addition to serving as principal for the Yellowstone National Park School. Most recently David provided professional development and guidance to selected school principals throughout Montana in his role as a transformational leader for the state.

"It's always rewarding to work for a school whose goals and philosophy align with one's own passions," David said. "Bixby's focus on developing critical thinking and authentic learning resonates strongly with me as these are values I've honored throughout my career. I look forward to guiding Bixby through this next chapter and plan to help the school offer the rich educational environment it has in the past."

On a personal level, David is also excited to join his children and grandchildren living in the Boulder area and to continue his exploration of the mountains in Colorado. He has yet to climb above 13,000 feet, but now sees his chance.

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Pat will work with David during the summer transition. Speaking to the Bixby community, she said, "I am grateful in ways beyond words for the trust and commitment you have placed in the Bixby School model over the years. Knowing that it will continue in good hands makes it possible for me to anticipate the future with hope and joy."

The Board will work with Pat and the Bixby staff and parents to coordinate introductory and transition activities throughout the spring and summer, as they welcome David Stringfield as the new Head of School.

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