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Harrisburg Academy Names Dr. Abby Mahone Head of Early Childhood and Lower School

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Harrisburg Academy is pleased to welcome Dr. Abby Mahone to the Harrisburg Academy community as the new head of Early Childhood and Lower School. Dr. Mahone will spend time on-campus throughout the spring and will officially start her new role on July 1, 2018.



The Academy's administration, faculty, and search committee valued their day-long interview with Dr. Mahone. Her desire to build relationships in the Academy community was evident throughout the process, and the committee was gratified to witness her genuine interactions with the students and faculty.

“Having grown up in Central Pennsylvania, I have long known of Harrisburg Academy’s rich tradition of rigorous academics and excellence in the arts,” said Dr. Mahone. “However, after being welcomed to campus, I quickly realized that it is the people who make the Academy such a special place. From faculty, staff, parents, trustees, and administrators, it is clear that the Harrisburg Academy community and I share a commitment to educating and caring for the whole child.

“Led by an experienced and highly qualified faculty, the Early Childhood and Lower School programs exemplify high-quality education. Enhanced by a curriculum that seamlessly marries the traditional tenets of an independent school education with 21st century innovations and opportunities, I am excited to join a school where the youngest students have the opportunity to learn and develop through exploration and play. In addition to my role as an administrator, as a parent I feel incredibly fortunate to return to the Harrisburg area and have my own children educated at the Academy,” she continued.

As she begins transitioning to her new role, Dr. Mahone said she is thankful to the Search Committee and Dr. Newman for their trust in her leadership. She is especially grateful to retiring head of Early Childhood and Lower School, Kevin Muirhead, for his vision and commitment to the Academy over the past 13 years. She looks forward to continuing his legacy of promoting excellence in teaching and learning in these two divisions.

Dr. Mahone recently completed a doctorate degree in educational leadership from Lehigh University. Previously, she earned a master’s degree from Lehigh University and a bachelor’s degree from Muhlenberg College. During this time, she also gained classroom experience, serving as a preschool teacher, classroom teacher (4th and 5th grades), department chair, director of theater arts program, and student activities coordinator at The Swain School, a preschool-8th grade independent school in Allentown.

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg’s only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12th grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website at www.HarrisburgAcademy.org or contact Miranda Connelly at 717-763-7811 or via email at connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org.