



November 29, 2011



Dear Brentonians,

On behalf of the Board of Governors of Brentwood College School, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Bud Patel as our next Head of School. Mr. Patel, the unanimous choice of the search committee, will assume the Headship of Brentwood on July 15, 2012.

Mr. Patel is currently the Deputy Headmaster and Principal of the Senior School at St. George's in Vancouver, BC. He is responsible for all day to day operations and is in charge of 770 students, 96 faculty, and support staff. He oversees the daily administration, including the academic timetable, co-curricular programming, discipline, transportation, food services, and budgeting processes. Mr. Patel's direct reports include the Directors of Studies, Residential life, Student Services, Athletics, Arts, Music, Theatre, and Admissions. In addition, Mr. Patel works closely with the Directors of Advancement, Finance, Human Resources, Risk Management, Community Relations, and Maintenance. Recently Mr. Patel completed a comprehensive strategic management plan which he is currently in the process of implementing. During the development of this plan, Mr. Patel visited many of the world's best known schools in Australia, Europe and North America and had the opportunity to learn of some of the latest developments in educational theory and practice.

Prior to St. George's, Mr. Patel taught and coached at Shawnigan Lake School for eight years. At Shawnigan Mr. Patel was also a Houseparent for boys and an Assistant Houseparent for both boys and girls. He was a member of the Academic Drive Team and coached 1stXV rugby, basketball, and field hockey. Mr. Patel met his wife, Wendy Helliwell at Shawnigan; they were married and had their two daughters while they were Houseparents at the school.

Mr. Patel graduated from Shawnigan Lake School (1985) and received his Bachelor of Science (1989) from the University of Victoria. He received his Masters of Arts (2000) from the University of Victoria, majoring in Curriculum Studies with special emphasis in implementing technology into curriculum.

The search committee led by Past Chair and current Governor, Kip Woodward, began their work some eight months ago. On the first shortlist, we reviewed over 25 candidates from several different countries and were very impressed with the quality of the applications. Eight of those applications were from within Brentwood, itself reflecting the strength of our school culture and the level of internal capability present within our current faculty. We learned a great deal about what is going on in other schools around the world, and wish to take this opportunity to thank all candidates for their interest in the School and for taking the time to travel, sometimes from long distances, for interview.

The position of Head of School is one of the most demanding and complex careers there is, requiring the broadest range of skills imaginable, a deep love and commitment to young people and their development, a willingness to be on call 24/7, with the ability to provide sound and fair judgement at all times, and the capability to be tough and uncompromising in one moment and compassionate and understanding in the next. We believe Brentwood is extremely well positioned to take its next significant step towards our vision of becoming one of the world's truly great and distinctive boarding schools, and we believe Mr. Patel's experience, background, depth of character, and natural leadership capability will take us there.

In closing, on behalf of the Board of Governors, I want to sincerely thank Andrea Pennells for her 30 years of excellence, devotion, and service to Brentwood. Her first 18 years as an English teacher, Head of the English Department, Houseparent, Deputy Head of School and finally, her last 12, as Head of Brentwood is something we all respect and cherish. Her vision created for Brentwood in her first year as Head, has served as an inspirational beacon, and motivating influence for all of us: teachers, staff, students, parents, alumni and Governors.

The Board welcomes Mr. Patel and his wife Wendy and their family to our community and is looking forward to working together with him in the future.

Sincerely,



Bruce Carlson
Chair, Board of Governors
Brentwood College School

