



## SANT BANI SCHOOL

May 4, 2020

Dear Parents,

The Sant Bani School Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Charles Britton as Interim Head of School to begin on July 1, 2020. The Search Committee enthusiastically recommended Charlie to the Board, observing that he is a highly thoughtful, empathetic, and accomplished independent school educator and leader with 29 years of experience as a teacher, administrator, and Head of School.

Charlie is a native of Southport, Maine, and has a deep fondness for Northern New England. He and his wife, Jennifer, found Sant Bani School on a visit to our area some years ago, and they remember our campus fondly. In addition to a deep familiarity and comfort with our region, Charlie came to our search process with an impressive resume. His two most recent headships, five years and eleven years respectively, were at PreK through 12 independent schools. At both institutions he led significant fundraising efforts. In his most recent headship, he worked thoughtfully with the Board, faculty, and community to fashion a comprehensive strategic plan that guided the school toward deepening existing programs while paving the way for new and meaningful ways for students to learn and grow.

Charlie received his BA in English from Lake Forest College and a MA in English from Middlebury College. He began his independent school career at Trinity-Pawling School teaching English, coaching, and being a dorm parent, and, as you can see in his attached bio, he progressed into senior administration before becoming Head of School. During Charlie's eleven years as Head of School at McDonogh School, *The Baltimore Sun* recognized it as a Top Workplace among mid-size companies four separate years. In 2018, Charlie joined Carney Sandoe & Associates where he serves as a Senior Consultant for the Head of School Practice.

In addition to Charlie's outstanding professional accomplishments, our experience with him in the search process showed him to have a remarkable degree of warmth, empathy, energy, and joy. These same qualities were reflected by Charlie's references, as demonstrated in the below statements.

*"Charlie radiates warmth and when he walks into a room, everyone immediately likes him."*

*"He's a respectful listener who makes everyone feel heard and understood."*

*"Charlie had very high respect from and for faculty."*

*"Charlie is the last person to take credit and the first to take blame."*

*"Charlie was especially good for guiding a school through difficult times."*

*"Great writer, great storyteller – speaks from the heart."*

*"He's just a good guy – students will benefit from him being on campus."*

We are very excited to have Charlie lead the SBS community. As we look to ensure a smooth transition from Nan to Charlie, he will begin conversations with Nan as early as this week. In addition, Charlie will begin work immediately with the Board on setting goals for his work as Interim Head of School.

In addition to his work with the Board and Nan, Charlie intends to meet with faculty via videoconference and/or phone. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we cannot provide the usual type of in-person opportunity for parents and students to meet Charlie. We ask for your patience as we work to find alternate ways for you to see and hear from him.

Please join us in welcoming Charlie to the SBS community.

Sincerely,

O. Whitman Smith, President  
SBS Board of Directors

Christopher Bicknell, VP  
SBS Board of Directors; Chair of Search Committee

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Board of Directors  
Sant Bani School  
[santbani.org](http://santbani.org)

*Be Good. Do Good. Be One.*