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*Teaching students with learning differences how to learn, how to be independent, and how to be successful.*

**For immediate release**

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Head of School Starts at The de Paul School

Louisville, KY, June 30, 2021 – The de Paul School is proud to announce Dr. Laurie Bottiger, as the new Head of School. She will be the third Head in the school’s fifty-one-year history. Dr. Bottiger will start her position on July 1, 2021. Tony Kemper, Head of School, retired at the end of the school year. His last official day is June 30, 2021. Kemper has been Head of School since 1994 and de Paul School educator employed by the school since 1982.

Angela Chumbley, Board Chair and member of the Search Committee said, “Dr. Bottiger will work diligently to continue our mission while keeping an eye on our strategic objectives. Her love of students and faculty were apparent during her visits.”

Bottiger has been Head of School for three independent schools beginning in 2005. She was recently Head of School at the Giff Hill School, St. John, USVI and is most recently a teacher at St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Potomac, Maryland, as well as a teacher trainer.

She says, “Leading an independent school focused on children with learning differences requires a comprehensive understanding of the many ways that children express their intelligences, talents, and skills. What may appear as deviation from classroom conventions is actually often unrecognized and unexplored extraordinary potentials. [At The de Paul School] we will ensure wonderful school days and years for our learners and their families. The thoughtfulness, the authentic commitment to the mission from all that I met, as well as the collaborative spirit left me genuinely inspired. I could not be more excited than to work collaboratively with this community.”

The de Paul School is an independent, non-sectarian kindergarten through eighth grade school. It was started in 1970 when it was recognized that children with learning disabilities such as dyslexia had a need for non-traditional teaching methods. The mission of de Paul is to teach students with learning disabilities [such as dyslexia and ADHD] how to learn, how to be independent, and how to be successful.

Many students who enter de Paul are two years behind their peers in grade level achievement. They are smart, but they process information differently than most students. Because of the very structured, consistent, and proven teaching methods, students are given the tools they need to acquire skills that will serve them the rest of their lives - in school and beyond. By the time they have finished eighth grade, they have caught up with, or surpassed, their peers in educational attainment. Over 95 percent of de Paul eighth graders are accepted into their first-choice high school and 93 percent go to college.

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For more information, please contact Lisa Cobb, Chief Development Officer at [lisa.cobb@depaulschool.org](mailto:lisa.cobb@depaulschool.org), 502-459-6131 or visit [www.depaulschool.org](http://www.depaulschool.org).