

March 20, 2024

Hello Staff, Parents and Community Members,

As you know, with Grace Fornicola's pending retirement, we have been in a search process for the Executive Director of Valley Forge Educational Services. We want to thank our partners at Lambert & Associates and the Executive Search Committee who worked hard to source and interview candidates. We also thank so many of you who took the opportunity to provide feedback on the candidates.

The Board has made a decision and we are excited to announce that **Tom Quinn** will be the new Executive Director of Valley Forge Educational Services effective June 12, 2024. Tom and Grace will have a few weeks of transition time together.

Tom has been the President of the HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy in Philadelphia since 2019. In this role, Tom led the organization's day program and residential program serving students from 27 school districts and four different states. His staff included over 130 professionals, including teachers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and 24-hour nursing that support the residence and the school. During his tenure, fundraising has increased by 33% and he created a new program at HMS called HMS Connect with the goal to connect HMS to the greater community, grow new programming and share the expertise of HMS's staff with a wider audience.

Prior to HMS, Tom was the Director of Education for the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia. During Tom's 10-year tenure, the program grew from reaching 70,000 children per year to 185,000 children per year through performances, classes and educational workshops in Philadelphia-area schools. He also worked at the middle school, high school and collegiate level as a teacher of American History.

Tom is a graduate of Bucknell University. Tom also holds a Master's Degree in Education from West Chester University and a Master's in Educational Administration from Gwynedd Mercy University. Tom resides in Rose Valley, PA with his wife, Susan, and their two children, Nathaniel, who is currently a junior at Hofstra University, and Samantha, who is in her first year at Oberlin College in Ohio.

We look forward to Tom joining VFES in June!

Sincerely,

*Bill Hennessey*

Bill Hennessey  
VFES Board Chair