

Kim Wargo

Professional Experience

Associate Head of School, Isidore Newman School, New Orleans, LA. July 2017 –present.

Isidore Newman School, founded in 1903, is a co-educational day school that serves approximately 1200 students aged six weeks through 12th grade.

Selected Responsibilities:

- Serve as partner with Head of School, overseeing the daily operations of the school.
- Oversee entirety of the school's academic and student programs, including hiring, professional development, and evaluation.
- Responsible for the school's self-study in 2018-19, in preparation for reaccreditation in 2019-20.
- Co-chair of joint task force of Board-Faculty-Administration to develop the "Newman Principles for Civil Discourse," an all-school initiative, 2018-19.
- Co-chair of joint task force of Board-Faculty-Administration to develop Newman's new mission statement, 2018-19.

Head of School, GEMS World Academy-Chicago, Chicago, IL. July 2016-June 2017.

GEMS World Academy-Chicago was founded in 2014. GEMS Education is an international company providing education to students around the world. The Chicago campus is its only U.S. school.

Initiatives:

- Continued the work of building the school from a PK-8th grade program into a fully integrated early childhood through 12th grade program.
- Oversight of candidacy process for Middle Years Program (MYP) of the International Baccalaureate (IB).

Eugene McDermott Headmistress, The Hockaday School, Dallas, TX. July 2011 – June 2015.

The Hockaday School, founded in 1913, is a day/boarding school for Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade girls. Located in the Hockaday neighborhood of North Dallas, Hockaday enrolls 1,080 girls.

Selected Accomplishments and Initiatives:

- Continued the quiet phase and launched the public phase of the Centennial Campaign for Hockaday's second century. During my tenure, we raised \$56 million of the \$100 million goal, which included support for the renovation of boarding facilities, integrated science and arts facilities, and endowment specifically for academic learning support and service learning.
- Led an inclusive, comprehensive strategic planning process to align with the School's self-study for reaccreditation. The strategic planning process involved over 500 constituents and resulted in "Hockaday 2020," a strategic plan approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2015.
- Expanded the School's global education, diversity and inclusion efforts, including creation of the Center for Global Citizenship, and the positions of Director of Inclusion and Community and Director of Service Learning.

Head of School, Katherine Delmar Burke School, San Francisco, CA. July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2011.

The Katherine Delmar Burke School, founded in 1908, is a school for Kindergarten-8th grade girls. Located adjacent to Lincoln Park and Land's End in the northwest corner of the city, Burke's enrolls 400 girls.

Selected Accomplishments and Initiatives:

- Worked with a selected team of faculty and administrators to design a Faculty Evaluation and Professional Growth system, implemented in the fall of 2009.
- Reframed the professional development process and budgets to support articulated institutional priorities around 21st Century Teaching and Learning and Wellness, as well as school wide and division specific curricular initiatives in the areas of writing, reading, and mathematics.
- Instituted a weekly thought column for the school's newsletter to articulate school priorities, support parent education, and build support for programmatic and institutional changes.
- Completed the final phase of the School's largest (to date) capital campaign, while increasing community-wide support for the Annual Fund.

Head of the Upper School, Louise S. McGehee School, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2001 – June 2008.

The Louise S. McGehee School was founded in 1912 as a college-preparatory school for young women. Located in the historic Garden District, today McGehee serves almost 500 girls, preK through 12th grade

- Responsible for the Upper School in its entirety, including management of faculty and administration, development of curriculum and oversight of budget.
- Worked with the Head of School and Director of Admissions to increase the enrollment of the Upper School from 125 students (2001) to 160 students (2005).
- Acted as one of five key administrators working with the Head of School in Houston to manage the School's response and reopening after Hurricane Katrina.

Director of College Counseling (2000-2002); **History Department Chair** (1998-2001); **Middle and Upper School Teacher** (1997-2001), Louise S. McGehee School, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Lower and Middle School Teacher, Hill School of Ft. Worth, Texas, 1996-1997. The Hill School is a co-ed day school, grades 2-12, focusing on educating students of above average intelligence with learning differences.

Honors and Awards

- **National Association of Independent Schools Fellowship for Aspiring Heads, (E.E. Ford Fellow)**, 2006-2007.
- **Spectator Appreciation and Dedication (school yearbook)**, selected by seniors and school community, 2001, 2006, and 2008.
- **Peggy McGehee Wisdom Distinguished Faculty Award**, summer 2000.
- **Teacher of the Year**, Hill School of Ft. Worth, Texas, 1996-1997.

Selected Professional Activities and Conference Participation

- Educational Records Bureau, Board of Trustees, beginning January 2013 – present.
- Elected by independent school peers to Country Day School Headmasters Association (CDSHA), 2014-15.
- Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS), Board of Directors, 2014-2015.
- Southwest Preparatory Athletics Conference (SPC), Executive Committee, 2014-2015.
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), invited participant at the Summit on “The Science of Learning and 21st Century Schools,” Vanderbilt University, May 2015.
- Online School for Girls, Heads’ Advisory Board, 2011-2015.
- The Heads Network (formerly National Association of Principals of Schools for Girls), Regional Vice President and Faculty Member for Women’s Leadership Seminar, 2012 – 2015.
- Regular presenter at national conferences, including National Association of Independent Schools and Educational Records Bureau. Featured panelist at Canadian Association of Independent Schools Annual Meeting, April 2017; OESIS London, March 2015; CASE/NAIS, January 2015 and January 2016; National Business Officers Association Symposium, February 2007.

Community Service

- **Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority**, Appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards of the State of Louisiana, November 2018.
- **Southern Methodist University Tate Lecture Series**, Board of Directors, 2012 - 2016. Chaired Strategic Planning Committee, 2014-15.
- **Builder’s Circle, Habitat for Humanity of Dallas**, 2014-2016.
- **Aim High of San Francisco**, Board Member, 2010-2011.

Education

Tulane University, M.A., History (1993); A.B.D. U.S. History, Women’s History (1995)

Louisiana State University, B.A., Journalism, (Minors in History and English) (1990), *Summa Cum Laude*

Interests: Writing, reading, traveling, cooking, and running.