

Dear Ashbrook Community,

The Board of Trustees of Ashbrook Independent School is thrilled to announce the appointment of Dr. Chris Schoberl as Head of School following a comprehensive, national search informed by the important feedback of faculty, staff, and parents of Ashbrook. Dr. Schoberl will officially start as Head of School on August 1, 2021. We believe he is an extraordinary fit for the culture of the school and the region.

Dr. Schoberl comes to Ashbrook from Crystal Springs Uplands School in the Bay Area of California. As Head of Middle School, he led the team that successfully built the preeminent 6-8th grade middle school program in the Bay Area. As Senior Advancement Officer, Dr. Schoberl built skill sets in the areas of Fundraising, Alumni Affairs, Admissions, Parent Relations, and Communications and Strategy that will serve Ashbrook well.



Prior to his time at Crystal Springs, Dr. Schoberl held a series of leadership roles of gradually increasing responsibility. He was an English Teacher at Delbarton School in NJ; an English Department Chair and Teacher at Foxcroft School in VA where he was awarded an endowed chair for excellence in teaching; the Academic Dean in charge of K-9 curriculum, professional development, and learning support at Fay School in MA; and the Principal of the Middle School at Trinity School in NYC where he also taught English and Art History and coached lacrosse. Finally, Dr. Schoberl brings to Ashbrook his experience as the founding Head of School of the K-8 Ben Franklin Classical Charter School in MA where he also taught Latin.

Dr. Schoberl holds a doctorate in Educational Administration with a focus in Private School Leadership from Columbia University. His dissertation was entitled “The Creation and Evaluation of a Computer Network for the Professional Development of Independent School Educators.” He also holds two master's degrees--a master of arts in Teaching and a master of arts in Education from Columbia University--and a bachelor of arts in Psychology from Rutgers University.



Dr. Schoberl will move to Corvallis next summer with his wife, Eileen. They share three grown children: Ethan, Molly, and Zachary. From left to right in the photo above, Dr. Schoberl says of them: “Ethan is a Senior at Crystal Springs Uplands School in Hillsborough, CA where he has been a three season athlete for all four years of high school and where he is currently playing football for the Gryphons. Ethan is an avid skateboarder, surf instructor, and dog lover looking at colleges in Oregon and Idaho. Molly is a Junior at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA where she has been the

Captain of the Varsity Crew Team since her Freshman year. Also a surf instructor, Molly is studying Social Work and is interested in Sustainable Agriculture and AgriEducation. Eileen is the General Manager for the three run specialty stores in A Runners Mind Group on the Peninsula, an avid long distance runner, and has *generally managed* to put up with the guy to her left for an amazing 25 years, this July. Zachary is in his Freshman "Rat" year as an ROTC Cadet at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA where he is studying History, playing D1 Football, and interested in pursuing a career in aviation or as a MARSOC Marine Raider.”

Dr. Schoberl has already begun the transition process and will visit Ashbrook several times before he moves. We will arrange opportunities for you to visit with Dr. Schoberl in a socially distant way during his visits. Please take advantage of the opportunities you will have to spend time with the Schoberls and to welcome them into the community.

AIS owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Mrs. Sechler for her leadership throughout this year and this process. She has done an exceptional job leading our school and keeping the AIS community connected during these challenging times. Mrs. Sechler’s insights and recommendations were an invaluable part of the Head of School search process. We look forward to a future at AIS that will continue building upon a foundation of talented and innovative faculty supported by Dr. Schoberl in partnership with Mrs. Sechler.

Please join us in thanking the Board of Trustees for its dedicated service to Ashbrook; the search committee for its intensive efforts to help Ashbrook find someone about whom they are truly excited; the faculty and staff of Ashbrook for its tireless work for our children; the parents of Ashbrook for their commitment to their children’s educations and to our community; and to Tradition Search Partners, the search firm that facilitated the process and ensured that the process was inclusive and thorough.

Our doors are always open to answer any questions you may have. We hope that you share our excitement about this next chapter for Ashbrook.

Warm regards,

Tze-Yiu Yong
Board Chairperson

Stephanie O’Connor
Search Committee Chair

To the Members of the Ashbrook Independent School Community,

I am honored and delighted to assume the role of your next Head of School! As I have noted right from my first encounter with Ashbrook, our School is a very special place, an opinion I happily confirmed with each conversation, each smile (even from behind masks!), each inviting voice, and each welcoming introduction during my recent campus visit. As I left Corvallis that day, the words of our mission came to mind as I reflected on the many ways I was both challenged and nurtured by the Ashbrook Community. I am especially grateful to Rachel Sechler who, as you know, continues to do such a fabulous job leading Ashbrook through these unprecedented times. Rachel’s professionalism, generosity, and spirit of partnership, throughout

the HoS search process, is one of the reasons I felt so connected to Ashbrook! In the coming months and years, I look forward to getting to know you, our School, and Corvallis, and to forging deep and meaningful partnerships with students, faculty, staff, and parents. As we turn this page together, to the next chapter of Ashbrook's history, I am very excited to work with you to deliver a student experience second to none! GO ASHBROOK!!

With warm regards I am sincerely yours,

Chris Schoberl