



Dear Parents,

We are excited to introduce our new faculty members for the 2022-2023 academic year. This group of new employees joins us from around the world, and we look forward to the contributions they will make to the VMS community. Each was carefully chosen from a well-qualified and distinguished pool of applicants. Please join me in welcoming them to VMS.

In the language department, we will be welcoming **Lizzy Gong**. Lizzy will be transitioning from the Dalian American International School in China. She has worked in education for over six years, teaching Mandarin as a second language to students. She will be teaching Mandarin for fourth through seventh grade next year.

We are welcoming **Tory Gilligan** into the performing arts department from the Bilingual European School located in Milan. Tory is a graduate of The Hartt School with a double bachelor's in vocal performance and music education. She will be teaching lower school music and is excited to move back to Vail after spending time here before moving to Milan.

Marko Pechnik will be joining our visual arts department next year, teaching art in all three divisions. Marko is moving to Vail from Janesville, Wisconsin where he was awarded the 2020 Emergent Teacher of the Year. Marko has worked with students both in a school setting as well as a camp setting and we are looking forward to seeing him in action.

Courtney Horsnby will be joining our middle and upper school teaching faculty in the math department. We are excited to welcome a familiar face as Courtney has previously coached a few of our students through the Vail DEVO program on the mountain. Courtney is joining us from Homestake Peak School in Avon.

Also joining us from Homestake Peak is **Aspen Stuedemann**. Aspen will be adding to our Student Support Services team as Kelly Enright transitions into a Technology and Integration Specialist role. Aspen will also be working primarily with middle school students and will also be coaching upper school volleyball in the fall.

We are also adding to our College Counseling program by hiring **David Heinemann**. Marisa and David will be working together to expand and better support our upper school students on their college application journey. David is moving here from Jackson Hole Community School and brings over twenty years of college counseling experience to VMS.

We are excited for this new group of educators to bring life experience, new perspectives, and new passions to our students as we enter into the 2022-2023 school year. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the building again in August.

Sincerely,

Sallie Lodewyck
Director of Human Resources