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**CONTACT**  
Dr. Joseph Fruscione  
(301) 244-3600  
jfruscione@thesienaschool.org



## **Siena Welcomes New Head of School**

*Experienced Educator, Leader Katie Douglas To Become Head of School for Silver Spring*

**Silver Spring, Maryland, and Oakton, Virginia, November 16, 2022** — The Siena School is excited to announce that Katie Douglas will be the new Head of School for Siena’s [Silver Spring campus](#) effective July 1, 2023.

“Joining the team at Siena is exciting,” Katie shared, “and I am grateful for the opportunity to return to a community of educators and families who believe in students who learn differently.”

Katie is an experienced educator and school leader who comes to Siena with a passion for working with students with language-based learning differences and creating educational spaces that work for all students. She has worked for over 16 years in independent school education, including nearly 14 years at [The Lab School of Washington](#) as Interim Intermediate Division Head, Associate Head of Intermediate Division, Summer Program Director, and English Teacher. Most recently, Katie was Interim Head of Middle School at [Friends Community School](#) in

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1300 Forest Glen Road | Silver Spring, MD 20901 | (301) 244-3600  
2705 Hunter Mill Road | Oakton, VA 22124 | (703) 745-5900



College Park, Maryland, where she oversaw curriculum and programming, communicated with families regularly, and inspired a commitment to Friends Community School's mission and continuous learning in the school community.

Katie holds a Masters in Curriculum Instruction (with a focus on special education and English language learners) from [The George Washington University](#) and a B.A. in Sociology and Education from [Haverford College](#). A lifelong learner with a passion for meeting the needs of all students, she is currently finishing a Certificate of Advanced Educational Leadership from the [Harvard Graduate School of Education](#). Katie has also been an [AISGW](#) Emerging Leaders Fellow and has participated in several programs designed to enable school leaders to problem-solve issues of equity and justice.

"We're delighted that Katie Douglas is joining the Siena community as the next Head of School for Silver Spring," Siena's Executive Head of School [Dr. Jilly Darefsky](#) noted. Katie's experience, expertise, and dedication to students who learn differently were evident throughout the selection process, and we're excited that she's joining Siena's team."

Although she will officially begin her tenure as Head of School on July 1, 2023, Katie will be gradually transitioning into her new role and meeting with the Siena community soon. [See here](#) for more information about Katie Douglas.

### **About The Siena School**

The Siena School, a leader in dyslexia education, serves bright, college-bound students with language-based learning differences. The school was established in 2006 in [Silver Spring, MD](#), where it serves students in grades 4-12. The [Northern Virginia campus](#) serves grades 3-10. Siena's staff and board of advisors include distinguished national, state, and local education leaders and professionals. Siena's program is designed for students with mild to moderate learning needs who are experiencing a discrepancy between their academic achievement and intellectual abilities in one or more areas such as reading, writing, oral expression, or math. For further information, visit [www.thesienaschool.org](http://www.thesienaschool.org).