
Distinguished Senior Educator Joins The Siena School

E.E. Ford Fellow Clay Kaufman Selected as Assistant Head



SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, June 14, 2007 – The Siena School (“Siena”) announced today that Clay Kaufman will be joining Siena as assistant head this summer. Mr. Kaufman is currently director of admission and financial aid at The Field School, where he has held a variety of significant leadership and teaching responsibilities in over 20 years of service.

At Field, Mr. Kaufman’s responsibilities have included: college counselor to all students; design committee member for Field’s new facility; math department chairman; accreditation steering committee chairman; dean of curricular affairs; budget team member; advisor; class sponsor; and head coach of soccer, softball and baseball. He currently teaches upper level math and history classes. During Mr. Kaufman’s tenure at Field, the school has grown from 170 students in two townhouses, to its present size of 310 students in a brand new \$27 million facility. As director of admission, Mr. Kaufman orchestrated an increase in enrollment from 200 students to 310 in just 3 years.

“We are incredibly fortunate to have an individual of Clay’s caliber joining our staff at Siena,” said Erik Heyer, Siena’s founder and executive director. “Clay is highly regarded in the Washington independent school community and would be a significant asset to any school. His experience supporting the growth of The Field School will be of direct benefit to Siena as we expand and develop our own program in the coming years.”



The Siena School places extraordinary emphasis on the quality of its faculty and staff. It also seeks out individuals who are highly committed to its core mission of serving bright students with learning challenges.

“I am very excited to join Siena,” said Mr. Kaufman. “My experience with multi-sensory, experiential learning over the years has proven to me that it is an ideal way to reach and inspire students.”

In 2004, Mr. Kaufman was selected for the second cohort of the E.E. Ford Fellowship program. This competitive national fellowship is administered by the National Association of Independent Schools for high potential aspiring heads of school. During the program, Clay was mentored by Bruce Stewart, head of school at Sidwell Friends School.

In 2000-2001, Clay participated in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program in Ankara, Turkey. He was a National Endowment for the Humanities Independent Scholar in 1994, and was selected for its Summer Seminar in 1993. He is also a past-president of the Independent Schools Mathematics Association of Washington (ISMAW).

About Clay Kaufman

Mr. Kaufman is currently director of admission and financial aid at The Field School, where he also teaches high school math and history classes. In over 20 years of service at Field, his varied and diverse responsibilities have included: college counselor to all students; design committee member for Field’s new facility; math department chairman; accreditation steering committee chairman; dean of curricular affairs; budget team member; advisor; class sponsor; and head coach of soccer, softball and baseball. At Field, he has worked with students with language-based learning differences and dyslexia.



Over the course of his career, Mr. Kaufman has been selected for a variety of distinctions and leadership roles, including: the E.E. Ford Fellowship program, a competitive national fellowship administered by the National Association of Independent Schools for high potential aspiring heads of school; the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program in Ankara, Turkey; the National Endowment for the Humanities Independent Scholars program and Summer Seminar; and past-president of the Independent Schools Mathematics Association of Washington (ISMAW).

Mr. Kaufman holds a B.A. in American Studies from Yale University, and a M.A. in Government from Georgetown University where he was elected to the Political Science Honor Society.

About The Siena School

The Siena School is an outstanding new private school in Silver Spring, Maryland serving bright, college-bound students with language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia. Siena's staff and board of advisors include distinguished national, state and local education leaders and professionals. The school was established in 2006 to serve students in grades 5 – 9, and will grow to serve grades 4 – 12 by 2009. 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. Siena delivers an individualized educational program featuring small class sizes, research-based instructional methodologies, a highly trained staff and an educational environment specifically designed to meet the unique needs of our students. For further information, The Siena School can be contacted at (301) 592-0567 or on the web at www.thesienaschool.org.

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