

# ***Strategic School Leadership***

## **(A Quick Introduction Before Our Website Goes Live)**

### ■ ***About Us***

- We are experienced school heads who work closely with school leaders – heads of schools, administrators, and governing boards – and we serve these leaders in the interest of creating places where teachers can flourish in their life work and students are inspired to learn. We advise governing boards about a range of crucial issues, including the qualities necessary for school leadership, but we do not conduct school head searches. Instead we focus on the school itself. We mentor school leaders, counsel leadership teams, and help boards think about how they can be most effective, from setting agendas to strategic thinking and to governance.

### ■ ***What We Do***

- Mentoring the Head of School
- The Head and the Administrative Team: Team-Building, Strategy, Problem Solving
- Board Governance
- Board Strategic Thinking
- Board Retreats
- School Mission and Market

## ■ Who We Are

- *Rick Melvoin.* Rick Melvoin has spent his entire career in the world of education. A graduate of Harvard College, with an M.A. and PhD. in history from the University of Michigan, he served as a teacher, coach, theater director, dormitory resident and, in time, History Department chair and Dean of Studies at Deerfield Academy. After five years as Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid at Harvard, he became Head of School at Belmont Hill and served there for 25 years. His experience in working with schools and boards runs deep. He was elected to the Board of Overseers at Harvard University and to the boards of The Winsor School, The Haverford School and The Epiphany School. He also has served as president of the boards of the International Boys' Schools Coalition and The Headmasters Association. Currently he chairs the Governance Committee as a member of the board of Facing History and Ourselves and chairs the Program Committee for The Steppingstone Foundation. He is the author of *New England Outpost: War and Society in Colonial Deerfield* (W.W. Norton, 1988), *Chapel Talks*, and numerous articles.
- *Vance Wilson.* Vance Wilson has been a teacher, coach, dorm supervisor, department chair, dean of faculty, division head, associate head, and head of school. He worked at four independent schools before becoming the head of St. Albans School in Washington, DC, where he served for nineteen years. He received his B.A. from Yale College, a Diploma from Trinity College, University of Dublin, and his M.A. from the University of Virginia. He has served on a number of boards and associations, most notably as the chair of the Academic Services committee of NAIS and *Independent School's* editorial board, and as the President of the International Boys' School Coalition. He was the co-investigator of the Klingenstein Programs at Teachers College, Columbia, a professor at Madison Area Technical College and an adjunct at the University of Delaware. Services on school boards include The Asheville School, Roxbury Latin School, and Tower Hill School, and associations include the Mid-South Association of Independent Schools, the Association of Independent Schools in Greater Washington (AISGW) and the Association of Independent Schools in Maryland (AIMS). He is also the author of a number of articles and short stories, three books on education, a collection of essays and homilies, and a novel.

## ■ To Contact Us

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