

**Announcement**  
**March 10th, 2022**

**FORMATION OF TRANSITION BOARD**  
**SAN JUAN DEL SUR DAY SCHOOL**

The School Transition Board will form to ensure a transparent, efficient and productive transition process. All decisions will be made in the best interest of the students for both the short term and the long term. The Transition Board is a temporary entity which bridges the transition from current governance structure to a school board governance structure.

**TRANSITION BOARD**

**Term:** March 13, 2022 – June 30th, 2022

**Responsibilities:**

- To make decisions during the term in relation to the upcoming 2022-23 school year.
- To support a fair and transparent transition process.

**Our Transition Board(Bios below):**

- Sarah Fahey
- Ed Paget
- Matt Gamache
- Julie Speier
- Tyler Tibbs

**FIRST MEETING:** Monday March 14th, 2022

**MINUTES:** Published within 48 hours on San Juan del Sur Day Sur website.

- **AGENDA:** Name committees and process for parents to lead them; Review and inscribe Transitional Board Members and Rules; Implement School Improvement Plan timeline; Plan budget for 2022-2023 school year; Outline process creating for the Middle/Upper School structure; Human Resources; set up 2nd interview with key candidates for Middle/Upper High School leadership.

**WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU**

- **Participation.** Please write to us if you would like to participate in any way or if you have constructive feedback for planning for next school year.  
Email: [sjdsdstransition@gmail.com](mailto:sjdsdstransition@gmail.com)

**THINGS WE WANT YOU TO KNOW**

- **JULY 1ST, 2022.** Date of transfer of the School to the new governing school board.
- **TRANSITION PROCESS.** This process will not affect the current school year.
- **HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.** High school construction will start sometime within the next 6-8 weeks with completion goal of August 28th, 2022.

We thank you for the overwhelming support which our school community has received over the last week. We are working together to implement a sustainable governance structure (school board) which will be with the educational institution for decades to come. The goal of all parties is to make the best school possible for our children. We are taking a thoughtful, inclusive, and considerate approach to make sure mechanisms are put into place to make decisions in a transparent and timely manner.

Thank you!

## **MEET THE TRANSITION BOARD**

### **Sarah Fahey**

Sarah Fahey and her husband, Justin, moved from the Northeast of the United States to Nicaragua in 2008. They have 2 children, ages 8 and 11, who have been enrolled at the school since preschool. Sarah has a Bachelor's Degree in English, a minor in Early Childhood Development, and a Master's Degree in School Counseling. She has worked at the Day School since 2013 in various capacities, most recently as Assistant Director, Counselor, Photographer, de facto School Nurse, and Admissions.

### **Ed Paget**

Ed has worked with people around the world on living intentionally and improving physical health and wellness. Ed takes a holistic approach to his work by supporting the community in harnessing the power of ancient wisdom and modern science. Ed has numerous connections to educational leaders around the world and he is dedicated to making thoughtful and considerate decisions for the enhancement of education in Nicaragua. He supports the creation of a sustainable governance structure inclusive of the community. He is an Osteopath and lifestyle medicine coach and has 2 children at the school.

### **Matt Gamache**

Matt has worked the last 12 years as a high school art and design teacher at the Carol Morgan School in the Dominican Republic and The American School of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. Matt and his wife Mary moved to San Juan Del Sur this year with their two kids, Matias(8th grade) and Farrah(6th grade). Mary is currently working at SJDS as the fourth grade teacher. Their children were both born in Washington State where they have over-summered throughout their international teaching experience. Matt enjoys surfing, baking bread, creating visual art and playing guitar.

### **Julie Speier**

Julie is a passionate risk-taker and confident leader. She is the co-founder and director of the Day School. She graduated from Boston University with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 1995. She was Team Captain and conference champion with the swim team. She loves surfing and continues to prioritize time in the ocean every week. She taught at schools Kalihi Kai Elementary School in Hawaii(3 years ESL), Cincinnati Country Day(3 years in PreK, 3years as Head of the Preschool, 1 year in Kindergarten and First grade) and New York City(substitute in public schools and private tutor) before relocating to Nicaragua in 2008. Julie has three children attending the Day School(Aine Joy 8th grade, Grace 4th grade, Johnny Joe 2nd grade). She has proven herself a cornerstone for our school and community. She has led the school for the past 13 years and is dedicated to continuing to help the school reach its full potential. She will continue on as Interim Director for the 2022-2023 school year and plans to be a part of the leadership and education team well into the future.

### **Tyler Tibbs**

Tyler is a creative thinker and compassionate leader who brings the goal of a community school to reality. He is highly committed to green education and Nicaragua's long-term sustainable development. Tyler has an abundance of knowledge in the school's legal, business, and operations departments. Tyler and his wife Massiel have resided in Nicaragua for 20 years, where they raise their 3 children. Tyler is also a former Elementary and Middle school teacher with a degree in Environmental and Resource Economics. He enjoys sharing his passion for permaculture with others, and he spends the most of his time with his family, playing soccer and propagating plants at his cactus nursery.

