

Head of School

Thomas Heyward Academy
1727 Malphrus Road
Ridgeland, South Carolina
July 2019



Our mission is to foster a life-long passion for learning, leading, and serving in a diverse world. We are dedicated to the development of each student in mind and body through academics, arts, and athletics in a safe and engaging environment.

The school is equally committed to the development of each student's character, with an emphasis on compassion, integrity, perseverance, respect, and responsibility.

Leadership Opportunity

Thomas Heyward Academy in Ridgeland, SC seeks a Head of School to lead a community of approximately 290 students in grades pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The anticipated starting date for the next Thomas Heyward Academy Head of School is July 2019.

Thomas Heyward Academy, Ridgeland's oldest and largest independent school, has origins dating back to 1970. With over 18,000 graduates, THA has a proven record of success in academics, athletics, and leadership!

Ridgeland is a beautiful small town with a close-knit community and a strong connection to the great outdoors. Conveniently located off of Interstate 95, Ridgeland is only a short 30 - 40 mile drive from Beaufort, Hilton Head Island, and Savannah.

Thomas Heyward Academy's next Head of School will lead a well-established, vibrant school that is soundly governed by a Board of Trustees possessing a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities ahead. The next Head of School will ensure the school's continued excellence, while remaining solidly grounded within the Thomas Heyward Academy Mission and Core Values which have made us a community of success.

Experiences and Qualifications:

The next Head of School should have substantial and successful administrative and leadership experience in a rigorous and competitive academic environment. Proven, highly-successful fund-raising skills are also essential to being the next THA Head of School. The Thomas Heyward Academy Head of School should be open and receptive to the culture, style, and mindset that permeates the South Carolina low country. Thomas Heyward's accomplishments and progress to date are admirable, but the momentum must not be lost.

Opportunities and Challenges for the Next Head of School:

Thomas Heyward Academy faces challenges of growth, competition, and fiscal responsibility—issues that require the wisdom, fortitude, and persistence of a skilled and steady leader. The next Head of School will need to balance an understanding of the school's history and traditions with its vision for the future, while ensuring Thomas Heyward Academy remains financially stable and self-sustaining.



Qualities Desired in the Next Head of School:

- ◇ Is an experienced educator and school leader
- ◇ Holds a graduate degree and demonstrates life-long learning
- ◇ Promotes the growth of students, faculty, and staff
- ◇ Understands finance, advancement, marketing, and technology
- ◇ Demonstrates understanding of college prep curriculum and can combine trends in education with THA values and traditions within the framework of the school's mission
- ◇ Addresses difficult situations and discipline head on, fair and consistent
- ◇ Self-confident, courageous, decisive, and able to work with a team
- ◇ Committed to educating the whole child through academics, arts, and athletics with the involvement of the parents and the community
- ◇ Excellent communicator, willing to be the face of the school
- ◇ Visible, heavily-involved in the life of the school, accessible to all members of the community
- ◇ Models professionalism, dedication, and hard work
- ◇ Seeks different perspectives, listens to the opinions of others, executes strategies and implements plans
- ◇ Strong moral character, loves children (all ages), and passionate about learning

Interested candidates should combine the following into one document and send electronically to npolkthamath@gmail.com before 10/15/18.

All applications will be held in strict confidence.

- Cover letter indicating reasons for interest in leading the Thomas Heyward Academy community;
- A Curriculum Vitae with References
- A Statement of Educational Philosophy