June 1, 2017

Dear Brent Community:

Every year, DC Public Schools conducts a nationwide search for the best talent to lead our schools. After considering the input and recommendations of your school community, we have concluded that Norah Lycknell is the strongest candidate to lead Brent Elementary School. Ms. Lycknell’s official appointment will begin on June 26, 2017.

Lycknell comes to the principal role at Brent with 16 years of experience in education. Most recently, she served as the principal at Brookland Middle School for the past two years. Prior to the principal role at Brookland, Norah led Janney Elementary School as the principal for six years. Additionally, she has worked as a resident principal, assistant principal, and teacher with DCPS. During her time at Janney, the school almost doubled in size: both in terms of student population and physical plant. She was also part of the DCPS Executive Masters in Leadership through Georgetown University. Lycknell received her bachelor’s degree in history and political science from Northwestern University, her master’s degree in teaching from American University, and her master’s degree in educational leadership from Trinity University.

To deliver a high-quality education to all students, it takes a strong school leader who is laser-focused on raising student achievement, while also ensuring the school community is a welcoming and safe environment for all. Astounding advances are possible when the right principal is leading a school. I’m confident that Ms. Lycknell will strive for excellence and equity every day, continue to build on the successes at Brent, and do great things for students, families, and staff.

I would like to thank all of the community members, parents, teachers, staff, and students who participated in the selection process. Your help with interviewing high-performing candidates and making a recommendation for a strong school leader has been invaluable. Ms. Lycknell is excited to begin her new role and get to know the Brent community. I hope you will give her your warm welcome and support as she partners with you to lead your children toward success.

Respectfully,

Antwan Wilson
Chancellor