

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joy McBrien
Phone: 651-414-6000
Email: joym@laurajeffreyacademy.org



**NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NAMED:
Jennifer Schiller transitions into Executive Director role at Laura Jeffrey Academy**

June 12, 2015: Saint Paul, Minnesota – Jennifer Schiller, now in her 4th year at Laura Jeffrey Academy (LJA), will transition into the role of Executive Director. She will officially assume this role on July 1, 2015. Jennifer, currently the Operations Director for the school, will be the first successor to the founder of LJA. She will continue to advance LJA’s mission to provide a place for scholars to “explore their potential, discover their brilliance, and develop their intellect.”

Now in its 7th year of operation, Laura Jeffrey Academy was founded in 2007 by Cindy Reuther. Cindy, an education and business consultant, started the school to provide access for all students to a girl-focused education offering enriched opportunities for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning and a place where youth develop their own voices during their transformative middle school years. Cindy will stay involved with LJA by joining the school’s Board of Directors.

“Jen is a natural fit for the Executive Director role because of her clear dedication to LJA’s mission and commitment to scholarship and organizational excellence, says Cindy. “Her collaborative style and transparency have won her the respect of students, families and colleagues alike. I am looking forward to watching LJA continue to grow and develop under her leadership.”

Both Cindy and Jennifer anticipate a smooth first year. Remarks Schiller, “I’ve been in a leadership position at LJA for a while now, and working closely with Cindy has prepared me for the challenges ahead.”

Jennifer grew up in an academic family where education was seen as a critical component to one’s success. Her experiences throughout life have contributed to her desire to “make change” and bring opportunities to those who are underrepresented. With her career originating in multiple leadership roles in corporate settings, she has intentionally shifted into a place where she’s able to use her skills to help teachers and communities come together and build a place where all children can become scholars.

Schiller states, “I’m honored to serve the LJA community as the next Executive Director. This transition period is an exciting time. During these first 7 years, hard work and dedication of staff and community have persevered in support of the vision Cindy set in motion. Through thoughtful planning and collaboration, we will build upon this foundation and expand the strength of our capabilities. I’m looking forward to making LJA the best place it can be and provide our scholars an environment to soar.”

Laura Jeffrey Academy (LJA), is a Twin Cities tuition free charter school offering a unique extended year calendar, girl-focused educational experience, grades five through eight. Students learn by asking questions, solving problems, rigorous study, and participating in the community. LJA's interdisciplinary learning and teaching model provides students with the experiences and skills that result in academic and personal success - students who are critical thinkers and leaders.

###

For more information or to schedule an interview with Jennifer Schiller or Cindy Reuther, please contact Joy McBrien at joym@laurajeffreyacademy.org.