

Sisters Academy of Baltimore

NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 Special Edition

February 2023

## **Sponsoring Congregations**

School Sisters of Notre Dame Sisters of Bon Secours Sisters of Mercy Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

## **Board of Members**

Kimberly Baxter Sisters of Mercy Mary Donohue, SNDdeN Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Nancy Gilchriest, SSND School Sisters of Notre Dame Alice Talone, CBS Sisters of Bon Secours

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## **OUR MISSION**

S isters Academy of Baltimore, a Catholic, community-centered middle school, educates girls of different races, ethnic groups, and religions, from families of limited economic means, particularly those in southwest Baltimore. The Academy empowers its students to become agents of transformation in their families, communities, and society.

## Introducing the Next President of Sisters Academy of Baltimore Kaliq Hunter Simms

Kaliq Hunter Simms has been named the second President of Sisters Academy of Baltimore, effective July 1, 2023. In this position, Simms will lead the school as it continues to provide an excellent education for middle school girls who live primarily in southwest Baltimore.

Simms, a fifth-generation Baltimorean and lifelong Catholic, attended Catholic schools from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Morgan State University and Master of Education from Harvard University.



*Sister Delia Dowling welcomes Kaliq Hunter Simms at the Morning Gathering.* 

On December 20, 2022, Dale McArdle, Chair of the Board of Directors, and Andrea Giampetro-Meyer, chair of the Search Committee, introduced Simms to the students, teachers, and staff during the school's regular Morning Gathering. Principal Dr. Jeanne Dolamore welcomed our guests and introduced the Gathering in the context of our Advent prayer for hope, peace, joy, and love, and our anticipation of Christmas and Winter Break.

Giampetro-Meyer described the extensive search process that engaged Board members, staff, students, parents, and Sisters of the sponsoring religious congregations who represent our community. Simms shared her joy in her appointment and her appreciation for the mission-centered work of the school each day. As she looked directly at the students, she said, "I see myself in you."

"Throughout the search process, I have had the privilege of seeing first-hand the deep commitment of the Sisters Academy community to its mission. I also have appreciated the warmth of everyone I have met." Simms said. "I am excited to lead Sisters Academy in the years ahead."

Sister Delia Dowling, the current school President, addressed the students and observed that just as they had been led to Sisters Academy by a teacher or parent, so Simms' experiences led her to Sisters Academy. "Ms. Simms' life experience, family, friends, skills and interests have led her to this moment and I am delighted with her appointment." Sister Delia said.

As the Gathering concluded, the school community presented Simms with a red fleece Sisters Academy jacket. To the delight of the students, she immediately took off her professional jacket and donned the Sisters Academy jacket. As the students were leaving, Simms spoke to each one and thanked her for the warm welcome.

During her career, Simms has taught high school English, worked as a senior director, and served on boards of independent schools in Baltimore.

Founded in 2004, Sisters Academy of Baltimore is co-sponsored by four congregations of religious women: School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Bon Secours, Sisters of Mercy, and Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.

## SISTERS ACADEMY OF BALTIMORE

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Save the Date

# The Power of Sisters

A celebration of Sister Delia Dowling, SSND and her leadership of **Sisters Academy of Baltimore** on the occasion of her retirement

Saturday, May 13, 2023 5:00-7:30 pm **Grand Lodge at Hunt Valley** Hunt Valley, Maryland

More information forthcoming!