

Kim M. Raccio, Founding High School Principal

We are extremely pleased to announce that Kim Raccio has accepted our offer and will join Brooklyn Prospect as Founding High School Principal. Our high school program will officially open under Kim's leadership in September 2012.

"From her early years as a classroom teacher, international marine educator, academic decathlon and swimming coach, to her more recent experience as a school leader, Kim brings a wealth of experience to Brooklyn Prospect," said Luyen Chou, chairman of the Brooklyn Prospect board of trustees. "Kim's deep commitment to and understanding of the importance of developing an international, twenty-first century perspective in students is clearly evident. Everyone to whom we spoke said that Kim has had an enormous and positive impact on her students, their families, faculty and administrators." Nick Seward, the headmaster at her current school, describes Kim as "a pioneer, a visionary who leaves a huge legacy."

Currently Assistant Head Academic at the Kingham Hill School – a grade six through twelve, 290-student school just outside of Oxford, England – Kim was originally recruited to the U.K. in conjunction with the U.S. State Department to serve as Founding Director of the American Studies Program at Kingham Hill. In that capacity, Kim worked together with the school's 90-member teaching staff to develop a groundbreaking, integrated educational program that brought together two national teaching systems in one learning community. Under her leadership, Kingham Hill became the first traditional British school to gain US educational accreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Kim's expanded role as Assistant Head Academic at Kingham Hill included responsibility for all teaching and learning programs within the school with a special emphasis on academic and social development of 11th and 12th graders. An incredibly

hard-working educator with significant experience serving a wide range of students, Kim also managed the school's Specific Learning Differences and Talented and Gifted Programs, developed whole-school programming around independent learning and 21st century skills, and built a school-wide advising system. In addition, Kim oversaw the college advisory program.

A globally minded educator, Kim is currently pursuing her Ed.D in International Education at the University of Bath where she has the privilege of working with leading International Baccalaureate (IB) scholars. She has served on accreditation teams for IB World Schools. Kim earned an MA in educational leadership from Columbia University Teachers College where she was awarded a Klingenstein Summer Institute Fellowship, and a BS in Biology, cum laude, and Educator Certificate from Southern Connecticut State University.

A full day of interviews with Brooklyn Prospect board members, administrators, faculty, staff, students, and parents quickly catapulted Kim to the top of over 100 applicants for this new position. According to those who met with her, "Kim exhibits a strong understanding of the mission and character of Brooklyn Prospect." "Excellent communication skills, a commitment to community and an openness to rethink convention, will make Kim an excellent founding high school principal."

We look forward to introducing Kim, in the coming months, to all of you, and hope you will help welcome her into our community!

