



Q&A with Sue Jackson, Ed. D.
Founding Head of School, Miriam Academy

Q. What are you most excited about in being named Miriam Academy's Founding Head of School?

It is truly an honor to join your high school team as the Founding Head of School for Miriam Academy. I am excited to be a part of a new, innovative high school with Miriam's mission to customize learning and develop the unique talents of each student through trusting relationships between students and staff. It's going to be very rewarding!

Q. How is your background a good fit to begin this new venture for high school students with learning challenges?

Throughout my 25-plus years in education, I have held core beliefs in creative, student-centered environments that individualize learning experiences with non-traditional approaches. Early in my career, I began teaching in special education and I found that is where the real need and rewards are.

I am fortunate with experiences in secondary administration and special education in both private and public schools, to be a part of student successes which include college acceptances, chosen career paths, and nurturing independent, responsible citizens.

Q. What are some important points you most want students and parents to know about the new Miriam Academy?

My vision for Miriam Academy is to create a safe and secure learning environment where students are both nurtured and challenged. We will start out small and always be student-centered. We want students and faculty to grow together and build new traditions.

It's also important to offer some of the things you would see as part of a typical high school experience. One example is for every student to organize a club in their area of interest with a faculty sponsor. Plus, we will create opportunities for social involvement through activities such as a movie night, dances or open gym where students can bring a friend. We will also explore ways for students to connect with the community through volunteering or part-time jobs.

The goal is to help all students find their passion, whether college-bound or career focused. Miriam Academy will maximize student potential and promote post-secondary success stories for our graduates.