

Tom Sheppard

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, Staff, Trustees, Alumni, and Friends of St. Andrew's,

It may be impossible to fully convey the sense of honor, responsibility, and excitement I feel envisioning a future that includes an opportunity to serve as the next Head of School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School. Throughout the entire search process, every member of the St. Andrew's family with whom I interacted embodied the school's mission with remarkable clarity, enabling me to understand why the school is so well positioned for continued success in the years ahead. With each passing conversation, it became readily apparent that the foundation for the future has been established over the past 70 years because of St. Andrew's unwavering commitment to its Episcopal heritage within a diverse community where a life of honor and service to others binds generations of graduates past, present, and still to come. It is humbling to consider that my family will soon be joining a school where so many are drawn so closely by a common purpose.

During our visits to St. Andrew's, Jennifer and I were overwhelmed by the hospitality and deep devotion to the school we encountered at every turn. Led by your Search Committee Chairs, Ravi Raju and Wilson Montjoy, along with the other members of the committee and their spouses, and extending outward in many directions, the comprehensive and thoughtful nature of the search process clearly reflected the school's commitment to "the pursuit of excellence in all our endeavors." If our time with you introduced us to the very best that St. Andrew's has to offer, then our work together in the years to come will give us much to which we can aspire every day.

I look forward to uncovering even more of St. Andrew's rich history and culture during conversations with many of you as this important transition unfolds in a thoughtful and deliberate manner. Your stories will add much to my understanding of St. Andrew's as we collectively chart a course forward. Along the way, I am reminded that we grow from a position of strength, arrived at through the efforts of many and guided by Dr. Penick's remarkable leadership over the past ten years. Ultimately, there is no doubt that our mission is clear, our foundation strong, and our future filled with promise.

On behalf of Jennifer, Zachary, and Olivia, thank you for welcoming us to St. Andrew's. We eagerly anticipate our future together and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the months ahead. Go Saints!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sh. W. Shep', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Sheppard