



Dear Collegiate family and friends,

It has been my honor and my privilege to have served as Headmaster of Wichita Collegiate School since the year 2000. This is the best job I could ever have imagined and it is because of all of you, the Collegiate family.

In June of 2016, I informed the Board of Trustees that the 2018-19 school year would be my last year as Head of School. My wife, Debi, and I have been incredibly blessed by our time here. Our initial connection to Collegiate began in 1978 when Debi taught science here in the Middle School. As parents, our four children all attended Collegiate, beginning in 1986. I served on the Board of Trustees for 12 years between 1986 and 1999, before being appointed Headmaster in 2000. By the time 2019 arrives, we will have been associated with Collegiate for 40 years. We are not “lifers” but what a life it has been.

During my time as a parent, trustee and Headmaster, I have seen the school grow and change in many ways: new facilities, new curriculum, new technology, new people. Those wonderful things happened as a result of generous, dedicated and committed parents, faculty, staff, trustees and friends of the school. It has been an exciting venture to be part of, and I’m confident this talented group will continue to build a vibrant, thriving learning environment for generations to come.

Collegiate is blessed to have the best people supporting it at all levels. And what has remained constant throughout the years is Collegiate’s steadfast adherence to its mission of excellence. This principled vision, founded in Collegiate’s roots, is what constantly propels Collegiate into its future. “Proving ourselves worthy” is not a cliché at Collegiate; it is a way of life.

By the time the last graduate crosses the stage at the 2019 commencement ceremony, I will have handed diplomas to over 1,150 of Collegiate’s 2,300 graduates. They, along with the 900 students still in the younger grades, represent Collegiate’s proudest accomplishments. Graduates, prepared for college and prepared for life, represent the Collegiate legacy and our hope for a bright future.

Thank you for all you have afforded me and my family for so many years. We are grateful for our time here and we will hold Collegiate forever dearly in our hearts.

With humble appreciation,

Tom

Tom Davis
Headmaster

November 1, 2017

Dear Collegiate family,

Nearly 16 months ago, Headmaster Tom Davis informed the Board of Trustees of his intention to retire from Wichita Collegiate School at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the past Board Chairs who have had the privilege of working with him, I offer my deep appreciation and gratitude for his many years of thoughtful leadership. Tom remains fiercely loyal to Collegiate - so committed that he wanted to give the Board of Trustees three years to embark upon this important transition.

For the last 17 years, we have enjoyed Tom’s steadfast leadership. Perhaps the best testament to his career as Headmaster is the position of prominence Collegiate holds in the Wichita community today. Collegiate is a school with strong academics, talented faculty and staff, distinctive extracurricular activities, and a welcoming family environment where students are prepared for college and for life.

The transition we are about to embark upon has only happened a few times at Wichita Collegiate School in our 54-year history. We are in a position to help define the next chapter of our School, an exciting and important task. The Board of Trustees has selected Carney Sandoe and Associates -- the premier firm in school recruiting -- to facilitate our search for the next Head of School.

My fellow Trustees and I recognize that the process through which we arrive at this decision is critical to the success of this transition. Over the next few months, you will be hearing more from us about the search process and how to become involved. Wichita Collegiate School is an attractive school for candidates nationwide, and we expect to select a new head from an impressive pool of individuals.

In the meantime, Tom will lead us through the end of the 2019 term to ensure we have a seamless transition to a new Head of School. We appreciate having him at the helm as we achieve the successful completion of our current strategic plan. We wish Tom all the best and look forward to continued success together as we plan for Collegiate’s exciting next chapter.

Sincerely,

Shari Male Powers '85

Shari Male Powers '85
Chair, Collegiate Board of Trustees