

# MARET

NOSCERE VIVERE EST  TO LEARN IS TO LIVE

February 19, 2019

Dear Members of the Maret Community,

I write you today, along with Ian Cameron, President of the Maret Board, to communicate some important information.

In my [October Message to our Community](#), I shared concern over frequent press reports about people who exploit positions of power by abusing those around them, and the emotional impact those reports can have on students. I also noted that some of our alumni, parents, or other community members might find themselves dealing with thoughts of past events and behavior. My message acknowledged that, during my tenure as Head of School, around a dozen alumni had reported concerns regarding past misconduct or abuse at Maret, and I urged everyone with such concerns to share them with me directly or with the appropriate D.C. authorities.

We deeply appreciate that several people did contact me in the ensuing weeks to express ongoing distress over past experiences and suspicions that involved members of the Maret faculty. It is important to state that none of these reports referred to current Maret employees. Because we care deeply about our alumni and our community, every allegation has been taken seriously and reported to local authorities when appropriate.

A few weeks ago, one individual bravely reached out to us with new and concerning information about a former faculty member. Of course, we promptly contacted D.C. authorities. The new allegations, when considered alongside similar, but less specific information received in the past regarding the former faculty member, prompted us to engage outside investigators. We believe that anyone who courageously steps forward to report concerns about possible misconduct should at all times feel supported, respected, and valued. We hope that by providing a private, confidential, and independent channel for such reports, every voice—and every story—can be heard.

Accordingly, we retained the law firm of Crowell & Moring LLP to conduct an independent, outside investigation of all allegations of sexual misconduct or other inappropriate conduct by any former (or current) Maret faculty. The investigators will report regularly to a special Board committee, created by Ian Cameron, to make certain a thorough and comprehensive examination of any reported concerns is conducted.

Therefore, if you have experienced or have any knowledge of abuse or misconduct by any member of the Maret faculty—former or current—we encourage you to contact directly our independent investigators: Laurel Pyke Malson ([lmalson@crowell.com](mailto:lmalson@crowell.com); 202-624-2576) or Rebecca Springer ([rspringer@crowell.com](mailto:rspringer@crowell.com); 202-624-2569). Every effort will be made to protect your privacy and maintain confidentiality. As a part of that effort and to respect the autonomy of individuals who have survived abuse, the investigators will not reach out to anyone who has not contacted them directly and expressed a willingness to discuss these issues.

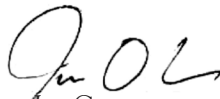
Please know that Dr. LaNaadrian Easterling, our Director of Counseling, is available to support community members ([leasterling@maret.org](mailto:leasterling@maret.org); 202-939-4064). If you have questions or concerns about this process, Ian and I encourage you to reach out to us (our contact information is given below).

Maret's Mission and its Core Values are at the center of everything we do. We endeavor to be a community that is open, honest, reflective, and willing to confront and learn from our past. Our first priority is always to ensure that Maret is a healthy and safe community for all of our students, present and past.

We will update you as this investigation progresses. Thank you for your understanding and your support of Maret.



Marjo Talbott  
Head of School  
[mtalbott@maret.org](mailto:mtalbott@maret.org)  
202-939-8819



Ian Cameron  
President, Maret Board of Trustees  
[ianocam61@gmail.com](mailto:ianocam61@gmail.com)  
202-329-5310

#### Additional Information and Resources on Maret's Website

[Maret's Code of Conduct for Faculty](#)

[Maret Parent Resource Center](#)

[Maret's Social-Emotional Learning Program](#)