



February 4, 2020

Dear Friends,

It is with careful consideration and mixed emotions that I write to inform you that I have decided to retire at the conclusion of the 2020-21 academic year. It has been a privilege to serve as Headmaster of MBS, and, while the 2020-21 school year will be my last, I will carry MBS in my heart and follow the progress of the School with great interest and delight for years to come.

At the conclusion of the 2021 school year, Darcy and I will have been at MBS for ten fabulous years. Our children are starting families of their own, and we want to spend time with them and with our parents. For these reasons, the timing seems right for us and for MBS as the School continues to move forward with great momentum. I have no doubt that new leadership will bring an exciting vision for MBS.

Darcy and I have shared our lives together, working as a team to help guide students through their most formative years. My years here would not have been nearly as productive nor joyful without her support and her inspiration. My Bench Talks, that share stories of our lives, reflect our shared goals and values. She has always been my most fierce supporter, editor and critic!

I entered this profession because of the opportunity to work with, and hopefully inspire, young people. Even as recently as 15 years ago, it was not my intention to lead a school, because I cherished my daily work with the students in the classroom and on the sports fields. However, the last nine years have been by far my most rewarding of my long and varied career as an educator. For me, the timing of becoming a head was critical; our three kids had left for college and I could devote my undivided attention to MBS.

At the beginning of every school year, I tell the seniors that their goal should be to leave MBS even stronger than it was when they entered the School. That has certainly been my goal for myself. With the tireless help of colleagues, and with the support of the Board, we have accomplished much over the last nine years. I am proud that the curricular innovation and programmatic vision for MBS drove the creation and renovation of the buildings, including the Math and Science Center, the Center for Innovation and Design, and the Simon Athletic Center and Rooke Pool. That said, our work is not done!

The initiatives most meaningful to me have been ones that enhance the daily experience of students, teachers and staff; that allow an exceptional school to be a relevant voice in a contemporary, national dialogue on educational best practices; and that ensure the School's

continued fiscal strength and lasting sustainability. MBS is a thriving, extraordinary school, well poised for its own next chapter.

Over the next 18 months, I am focused on the important work that is upon us as we complete the next Strategic Plan and continue the transformative work that will prepare us for the future. I am as ready as ever to enjoy every day on the MBS campus.

Please know the MBS Board of Trustees and I will ensure the smooth transition to new leadership, as well as the continued success and forward trajectory of all our programs. I am blessed with a very capable and experienced senior administrative team whom will fully support the next Head of School. Having thrived here, I want nothing less for my fortunate successor, who will continue to support and enhance the School's tradition of educational excellence. A Head of School search process will begin to unfold over the next weeks and months. John Fay, the President of our Board of Trustees, and Paul Hawkins, Head of the Search Committee, will keep the community abreast of the process.

I have to admit that there is much that Darcy and I will miss when we leave this incredible community a year and a half from now. Most poignant will be our relationship with the remarkable students that have passed through our doors. It gives us unending delight to watch how so many students have flourished and have been transformed under the watchful eye of a loving and brilliant faculty and staff. Simply put, MBS is a joyful community because of the people.

I am forever inspired by the professionalism and deep care shown to Darcy and me by the MBS Board and community of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and their families. Thank you for your all of your support, and for your friendship, both professional and personal. Thank you for the honor and joy of serving MBS.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. J. Caldwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "C".

Peter J. Caldwell