



March 4, 2021

Dear Harbor Community,

The first time I stepped on to this campus to meet the students and faculty, I knew there was something unique and special about Harbor Country Day School. You have heard me say it so many times - Harbor believes in the goodness of students and the relationships between the faculty and students which empowers each child who enters its doors. The atmosphere in this building breathes its mission.

For me, Harbor is a place where I have found a home because the relationships I have had with the people here, both the adults and the children have made me, in many ways, who I am today. I feel that Harbor has given me so much more than I have given to Harbor.

But, on June 30, 2022 - 16 months from now - I will be putting away my bowtie, sneakers, and handshakes and retiring after an incredibly fulfilling 44 years in independent school education. It has been a privilege to work so closely and to build such strong relationships with children over these years. Particularly, I have been so fortunate to work with people of like minds at Harbor who care deeply about the work they do - the dedicated faculty, members of the board of trustees, and parents who believe in this school.

I look forward to these last 16 months and the work we want and need to do together, but I know that the school is in excellent hands with its strong history, its tradition of excellence, and with a clear mission. There are great things ahead for Harbor in the years to come.

I thank you for having faith in me and for providing me with this incredible opportunity to work at Harbor all these years. It is a gift I will always cherish.

Most sincerely and gratefully,

John Cissel