



THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL

The Shelby Cullom Davis '26 Head Master

February 28, 2018

Dear Members of the Lawrenceville Community,

I write to update you on our continuing efforts to identify and address incidents of adult-student sexual misconduct at Lawrenceville, regardless of when they occurred. You will recall that our December 2017 letter described four past incidents of serious sexual misconduct and encouraged anyone to come forward if they had additional information about those incidents or any others.

(Read the December 2017 letter here:

https://lawrenceville.myschoolapp.com/ftpimages/928/download/download_2637668.pdf)

The response from our community was meaningful. Alumni have come forward and provided firsthand accounts of misconduct. We have already spoken with some of these alumni, and will speak with all others, including those who were victimized by Bruce Presley, a former faculty member and housemaster whose conduct was described as the “fourth incident” in my December letter and who was recently the subject of media reports. We also received additional reports about some of the other incidents reported in the December letter as well as other accounts of past misconduct by former faculty and staff members.

Based on the information received since my December letter, we have retained outside counsel, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, to conduct an independent investigation. Debevoise & Plimpton is a highly respected firm based in New York, with extensive experience in matters such as this, and with no prior relationship to the School. Their work has begun and they have conducted interviews with some alumni and will contact and interview everyone who has already provided information about misconduct to the School since the December letter—whether by email, letter, phone, or through our confidential reporting portal. In addition, Debevoise will also follow up with, and, as appropriate, interview anyone else who may still come forward with relevant information about instances of adult-student sexual misconduct. We will report on the investigation when it is complete.

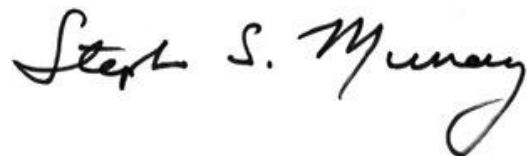
From the start, our approach has been pro-active, and we continue to be committed to eliciting any new information about prior incidents of sexual misconduct at the School. While we are disturbed by the reports that members of the Lawrenceville community have shared with us, we believe that understanding our past is an essential part of healing for those who have been impacted and for preventing misconduct in the future. We want to ensure that victims feel empowered to come forward, that we provide for counseling where helpful, and that we learn from any past mistakes so that students today and in the future are safe at the School. For these reasons, we encourage anyone with relevant information about adult-student sexual misconduct at Lawrenceville to share that with us.

For those seeking to contact us, we are offering a number of options. As before, I welcome your direct communication either through my office phone: (609) 896-0408, or my email: headmaster@lawrenceville.org. In addition, our highly confidential, anonymous reporting portal hosted by Navex is open to all members of the Lawrenceville community and can be accessed through the following link: <https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/48378/index.html>. Erika Worthy, our director of human resources, can be reached via email: eworthy@lawrenceville.org or phone: (609) 620-6114. Finally, for those wishing to contact independent investigative counsel from Debevoise directly, Mary Beth Hogan can be reached via email: mbhogan@debevoise.com or phone: (212) 909-6996, and Bruce Yannett can be reached via email: beyannett@debevoise.com or phone: (212) 909-6495.

We have also taken another step to support any Lawrenceville student—current or former—who has experienced any type of adult-student sexual misconduct. Specifically, the School has retained James (“Jamie”) Forbes, a Milton Academy sexual abuse survivor, to serve as a resource for our community about coming forward, answer questions about the investigative process, and help those seeking options for counseling. Jamie has already been in contact with, and is providing assistance to, some of the Lawrenceville alumni who have come forward. You can learn more about Jamie and his services at the following link: <https://hadleyrock.com/about/>. Jamie can be reached via email: jforbes@hadleyrock.com or phone: (603) 315-0576.

In closing, I want to express my personal appreciation for those who have come forward to date. Already this process, which began over 18 months ago, prior to our initial letter to the community in June 2016, has sparked improvements, and what we have learned from our inquiry and these recent testimonials has led us to dig more deeply into our policies that teach respect, promote self-advocacy, and ensure healthy boundaries. Our aim all along has been to strengthen Lawrenceville by gaining a more complete understanding of the past. I continue to feel we are moving in the right direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen S. Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "S" at the beginning and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Stephen S. Murray H'55 '65 '16 P'16 '21