

LAWRENCEVILLE'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

June 18, 2021

Dear Lawrenceville Community,

As we close The Lawrenceville School's 211th academic year, we have much to be proud of as a School community. In a recent letter, I detailed some of the impressive and inspiring achievements of the year, from scholarly student endeavors to alumni connections to campus enhancements. I also referenced our DEI strategic plan that will guide us in strengthening a culture where every member of our community is heard, seen, and cared for: ***Belonging, Building, Becoming: The Lawrenceville School's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion***.

A direct outgrowth of our overall strategic plan, **Lawrenceville 20/20**, and our mission to "... challenge a diverse community of promising young people to lead lives of learning, integrity, and high purpose," the plan is a critical component of the School's long-term success. Belonging, Building, Becoming draws upon the input and counsel of Lawrenceville trustees and Lawrenceville Black Alumni Association leadership, to whom we are enormously grateful. It outlines our Statements of Belief, Vision, and Strategic Initiatives, and is complemented by a comprehensive internal version with detailed action items and accountability. An associated progress dashboard is available **on our website** and will be updated quarterly.

Over the past year, we have made important advances in administrative restructuring, faculty and staff workshops and student leadership training in implicit bias, a more complete strategy for recruitment and retention of faculty of color, and an independent audit of our disciplinary system. Perhaps one of the most concrete and high-impact action items is the newly established Hutchins Center for Race and Social Justice, which will open in fall 2021. Leaders of the Lawrenceville Black Alumni Association developed the original concept for this landmark initiative, which was refined by an advisory board and a cross-section of administrators, faculty, and staff.

The Hutchins Center will advance the School's established vision of applied, experiential learning and will invite our community members to pursue original research and writing, actively seeking solutions to some of the greatest societal challenges of our time. It will offer direct access to scholars and leaders at highly respected national organizations, as well as opportunities for guided student research, faculty and staff fellowships, and summer studies.

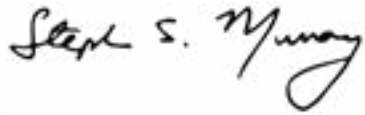
Primary financial support for the Hutchins Center is provided by Trustee Emeritus Glenn Hutchins '73, who also was highly influential in developing the vision that focuses on both scholarship and social activism. In concert with the Hutchins Family Foundation, Hutchins has made enduring contributions to the School through initiatives like the Hutchins Scholars Program, which provides enriching research experiences for Lawrenceville's most committed student scientists and prepares them for leading university science programs and related careers. The Hutchins Galleries at Lawrenceville offer rotating exhibitions, integrating art into campus life and inspiring individual reflection and community dialogue. Hutchins is also a benefactor of both the Obama Foundation and the Hutchins Center for Africa and African American Research at Harvard University, as well as other organizations like Brookings and CARE that seek both to promote justice and to take concerted action.

Inspired when they heard the news about the Hutchins Center, Trustee Emeritus David Ottaway '57 and his wife, Marina P'86 '91 GP'24, have provided additional generous support, helping to ensure a strong launch and a successful future.

You can read more about the Hutchins Center for Race and Social Justice on our website.

Please click here to view *Belonging, Building, Becoming: The Lawrenceville School's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*.

We are proud of the efforts we have put forth to date as a community, and look forward to continued engagement as we envision an even stronger Lawrenceville. Lawrentians can change the world, but that change starts here at home. When we leave these walls, we bring with us a faith that this hard work is worth doing, and that communities are worth investing in, because we've seen what success looks like, here. Thank you, Lawrentians, for your courageous conversations, collective determination, and unwavering commitment to this great institution.



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