



## New School Leader Named, Follows Unprecedented 27-Year Tenure

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*Photo Attached; Caption:* Head of School Elect Wallace Worden with Outgoing Head of School Dr. Tad Bird

\*Additional interviews upon request

After 27 years under the same leader, All Saints' Episcopal School will usher in its third Head of School effective July 1, 2025. The Board of Trustees has named current Assistant Head of School Wallace Worden as Dr. Tad Bird's successor. Dr. Bird will transition to Head of School Emeritus at that time.

"We are fortunate to be making this transition from a position of strength in programming and people," said Head of School Dr. Bird, "and I'm passing the baton to Wally with full confidence that All Saints' is remarkably well prepared for the future."

While the average tenure of a school leader is five years, All Saints' has had the great benefit of Head of School Tad Bird's visionary leadership for 27 years.

In his tenure, Dr. Bird led the School through transformative measures that have elevated it from a small parish school to a premier Age 3-Grade 12 college preparatory institution. Notably, he:

- Fundraised for and oversaw the building of the current 147-acre gated campus in west Fort Worth that now serves 1,200+ students
- Reintroduced the Early Childhood program, building it from 38 students to 160 with a consistent waitpool
- Established mission-focused traditional curricular tenets through strategic partnership with the Lee & Ramona Bass Foundation
- Elevated all School fundraising to include a strong annual giving program and building the endowment from \$300k in 1998 to \$30M today
- Launched a landmark program for the most highly-motivated Upper School students - the Tad Bird Honors College - named after him as a nod to his vision and support

The evolution of student collegiate matriculations under his leadership is also highly notable: In addition to acceptances into a range of schools from Ivy League to in-state favorites, All Saints' senior classes on average earn \$13.8M in merit scholarships with 14+ student athletes signing to play in collegiate athletic programs (14%).



“Having worked for and with Dr. Bird for the past 25 years I've been able to learn from him firsthand,” said Assistant Head of School Wally Worden, “and I'm excited to continue his vision and this great work.”

The Board of Trustees focused on three primary areas in succession planning: Maintaining high standards and momentum, and appointing a person with strong character (visible, relatable and accessible) who also has a deep understanding of our School culture and community. As part of that discussion, Dr. Bird promoted Wally Worden from Upper School Division Head to Assistant Head of School in January 2023, to oversee the academic and admission teams, and eventually also the advancement team.

“All Saints’ is in a unique position to capitalize on the stability of a homegrown candidate who has already proven to be invested in our community and successful at managing the day-to-day operations of the campus,” said Rusty Reid, All Saints’ Board of Trustees President. “If you know Wally, you know he is charismatic, energetic and solution-oriented.” You can [read more here.](#)

This Head of School transition takes place at a pivotal moment in the School’s history, as All Saints’ will celebrate their 75th anniversary year starting this fall.