



THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

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PENNINGTON, NJ, September 8, 2025—The Pennington School Officially Kicks Off a New Academic Year

PENNINGTON, NJ — The Pennington School formally opened its 188th academic year with its annual Convocation ceremony on Friday, September 5. A brass quintet played as the students entered by grade, followed by the formal academic procession of faculty and trustees.

Chaplain David Hallgren opened the program with a benediction, followed by the Pennington Singers performing the national anthem. After welcoming remarks from Peter Tucci, chair of the Pennington School board of trustees, there were greetings from various School constituencies, beginning with Head of Upper School and Teacher of History Scott Peeler.

Grady Meader '30 represented the Middle School, and Saniya Bhanote '26 was the Upper School representative. In his Convocation address, Head of School Dr. William S. Hawkey spoke about his theme for the year, “What Is Your Impact?,” challenging every member of the Pennington community to reflect on the influence they have on others and on the world and inviting them to consider the legacy they hope to leave behind.

The program then concluded with a benediction from Chaplain Hallgren.

The Pennington School is an independent coeducational school for students in grades 6 through 12, in both day and boarding programs. The curriculum is college preparatory, with an emphasis on individual excellence, fostering the development of the whole student through academics, athletics, community service, and the creative and performing arts.

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Photo Caption: Head of School Dr. William S. Hawkey poses for a photo with student speakers, Saniya Bhanote '26 from the Upper School, and Grady Meader '30 from the Middle School.