



Dear Frederica Academy Family,

It is with deepest gratitude and profound respect that I write to you today to announce the impending retirement of Scott Hutchinson, our exceptional Head of School, and my friend and partner over the past seven years. Scott will continue to lead the school for the remainder of this school year as well as the entire 2026-2027 school year. He will retire in June 2027.

In graciously announcing his plans this early, Scott has given us the ability to conduct a thorough and strategic search for his successor while we have the benefit of his continued leadership over the next 15 months. You will receive more information regarding our plans for selecting Scott's replacement tomorrow afternoon.



During his tenure, Scott has leveraged the wisdom amassed over a half-century career in independent school education. It has made him a decisive, measured, confident, strategic, and most importantly, a successful leader who values both joyfulness and accountability. Scott's FA accomplishments are too numerous to list in totality, but I do want to take this opportunity to highlight some of his most significant achievements.

Over the past seven years, FA's enrollment has grown by nearly 46%. Operational revenue has increased by over 60%. FA's endowment has nearly doubled, and Scott has helped raise almost \$18 million for campus capital improvements since 2022, eclipsing all previous fundraising records. When he arrived at FA, he believed the school's Summer Programs to be an underleveraged asset. Since then, Summer Programs has increased its camp registrations by about 345% and revenue by more than 527%.

We are especially thankful to Scott for helping lead FA to new heights in academic, athletic, and arts programming and success.

Through Scott's commitment to excellence and intentionality, academic performance and support has flourished. The redesign of the curriculum in the Lower School in tandem with consistent and engaging professional development training has vaulted the division's ERB testing scores. A more vibrant and dynamic learning culture in the Middle School is the result of enhanced collaborative and hands-on learning; discovery now exists in ways not previously imagined. The Upper School's AP portfolio has increased by 50% over the past seven years. Our 2025 AP scores earned FA the [College Board Platinum Award](#), which is the highest distinction given to high schools that excel in building a strong culture by demonstrating broad access and high achievement in Advanced Placement courses.

Scott's passion for and commitment to athletics are most visible in the expansion and improvement of our athletic facilities and the success of our programs at both the Middle School and varsity levels. The school's first-ever state baseball title coming during the program's first season in the new Watson Baseball Complex last year is but one example of the synergy of quality athletes, coaches, facilities, and programs. As a former captain of the Duke men's soccer team, Scott is especially proud of the three state titles our varsity girls' soccer team has won since 2023, the FA graduates who have extended their athletic careers into college, and the many athletes who have had purposeful seasons and careers since his arrival. Athletics are indeed a valuable cornerstone to the FA experience.

Perhaps most gratifying to observe since Scott's arrival is the elevation of our Fine Arts Department's programming and facilities. The expansion of music and theater experiences in the Middle School and Upper School coupled with the new Windolf-Johnston Performance Plaza, Music Suite, and the renovation of Sapp Hall have led to some wonderful performances and memories for our FA students and families in all three divisions. An additional visual arts teacher and classroom in the Ralston Fine Arts Center has also created new opportunities for all three divisions.

For some of our families, Scott will most be remembered for his ubiquitous presence each morning at Lower School carpool. He has opened thousands of vehicle doors over the past seven years and has learned the names of every new Lower School student in the early days of August as he welcomed them to campus each morning. On the other side of campus, Scott will be remembered for his thoughtful and eloquent poems at graduation where he insightfully and playfully honors every graduating senior each year.

Scott's thoughts regarding today's announcement are included in a note from him below. We will have many opportunities to express our endless gratitude to Scott over the next 15 months for what he has achieved and will continue to accomplish as the Head of our FA family.

Frederica Academy is now poised to attract an accomplished and exceptional leader from a national candidate pool who is inspired by the school's recent successes and who is eager to build on Scott's impressive legacy. I believe this may be Scott's greatest gift to all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greer Brown".

Greer Brown, Chair
Frederica Academy Board of Trustees