

May 10, 2017

Dear Members of the St. Peter's School Community,

We write to inform you of several important leadership transitions at St. Peter's School. First, Carmen Guerra will be completing her fifth and final year as the Chair of the Board of Trustees at St. Peter's School on June 30, 2017. The Board of Trustees will welcome Thomas Suddath as its new chair on July 1, 2017. Tom and his wife, Mollie, are the parents of two students at St. Peter's School, Thomas '22 and Emily '24. Tom has been a member of the Board of Trustees at St. Peter's School for the past three years.

Second, as you have now learned, Shawn Kelly has announced his decision to step down as the Headmaster at St. Peter's School effective June 30, 2018. While we are deeply saddened to lose such a talented Head of School, we understand Shawn and his family's desire to move closer to their family in Colorado, and we support their plans.

We would also like to thank Shawn for all he has accomplished during his tenure so far as the Head of School of St. Peter's School. Under Shawn's leadership, the St. Peter's School physical plant has never looked better with the addition of the Sally Wiggins West Lawn and David Costello Playground, the Innovation Lab, a Recording Studio, and remodeled Early Childhood Division, faculty lounge, lobby, and theater spaces. Under Shawn's leadership, St. Peter's School created a strategic plan and has already implemented many of the goals outlined in that plan. In addition, on November 17, 2016, St. Peter's School purchased the main school building from St. Peter's Church. For the first time in its history, after many years of pursuing this goal, St. Peter's School owns all of its facilities and, as a result, controls its own destiny. St. Peter's School remains financially strong, continues to enjoy robust enrollment, has expanded and strengthened its academic and extracurricular offerings, has nearly doubled its endowment, and continues to place students in the top secondary schools in Philadelphia. Most importantly, the educational experience provided by the outstanding faculty to our students is excellent. We thank Shawn for these truly remarkable accomplishments and for deepening the culture of excellence in education at St. Peter's School. The St. Peter's School Board of Trustees met last night, expressed our deep gratitude to Shawn for his outstanding leadership over the past five years, and began the planning of what will be a year-long leadership transition plan. The Board will soon begin the search for a new Head of School with the aid of an external search consultant and the appointment of a search committee. We look forward to working with Shawn to assure a seamless transition for the students and faculty. We also look forward to working with the St. Peter's School community to help identify its new Head of School.

I hope you will join us in continuing our support for Shawn and expressing our gratitude for his tireless leadership from which we will continue to benefit at St. Peter's School in the coming academic year.

Sincerely,
Carmen Guerra, P'15, P'17, P'22
Chair, Board of Trustees

Thomas Suddath, P'22, P'24
Chair-elect, Board of Trustees