



EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Foundations for Life

Dear Frank and Ted,

With mixed emotions I am writing to inform you that I will be stepping down as Episcopal Day School's Head of School at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. By then our team will have fulfilled our vision for integrating the Flowing Wells Campus and we will have navigated through the worst of the pandemic. Lucy and I decided last summer that those milestones would be a fitting time for a transition to retirement. It has been the greatest professional and personal privilege to serve EDS and this community. We are grateful for the foundational education our boys received and the community of wonderful friends and colleagues who have partnered with us on this nineteen-year journey.

I am especially grateful to the faculty and members of the Board of Trustees, past and present, who have been dedicated and principled partners in leading the school through nearly two decades of remarkable growth, transformational change, and nimble responses to changing conditions. Among some of the more notable of our accomplishments, we have:

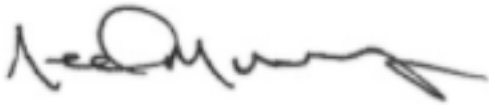
- Clarified our vision of education and strengthened the curricular scope and sequence.
- Brought intentionality to our focus on life skills and the unique value of PK-8.
- Significantly expanded enrichment classes, clubs, summer camps, and athletic offerings.
- Built a team of top talent and nurtured a faculty culture marked by collegiality, research, professional growth, and student-centered innovation.
- Promoted a culture of data-informed decision-making, including the implementation of annual analysis of ERB scores and parent surveys and the creation of annual performance dashboards for every school administrator.
- Enhanced the educational environment by attracting students and faculty members from diverse backgrounds, as indicated by the 16 - 20 zip codes in our student body, 25% of our families receiving endowment-supported financial aid (up from 9% in 2004), 18% student racial diversity (up from 4% in 2004), and 13 current faculty members who relocated to Augusta to work at EDS (up from 1 in 2004).
- Achieved consistent annual progress and financial stability, including 17 straight years of balanced or positive budgets and growing the school's endowment from \$500,000 to over \$5,000,000.

- Redesigned all outdoor space at the Walton Way Campus. Envisioned, acquired, built, and integrated the transformational Flowing Wells Campus-- including the region's first Nature School--supported by the most successful independent school capital campaign in the region (\$7.3 million to date).

As we emerge from the pandemic to whatever the “new normal” brings, these accomplishments form a firm foundation on which to build the future of EDS. By the end of next year, it will be time to revisit our strategic plan, begin the re-accreditation process, and recast the vision for EDS's role in the post-pandemic world. This seems a good time to pass the baton to a new leader. I will do anything I can to support the search and a smooth transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this school's rich history and traditions. Together we have accomplished a great deal, yet I am certain that the best years for EDS lie ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ned Murray", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Ned R. Murray