



December 7, 2016

Dear TCS Community,

The search for our next Head of School has been a journey that has blessed our school community in so many ways. From the start, the Board of Trustees was committed to a search process and communication plan that were transparent, open and honest. We came together and prayed in faith that God was already working in the heart of the person He would call to be our next leader. Our prayers have been answered and it is with tremendous excitement and gratitude that I inform you we have selected our next Head of School, **Mr. Aaron Farrant!**

As you will recall, the Board of Trustees established a Search Committee and retained Jim Adare to assist us in the effort to identify candidates for our next Head of School. Jim received over twenty applications and recommended eight for our consideration. The Search Committee reviewed each application and chose five candidates to interview initially. From those interviews the Search Committee selected three candidates to return for an in depth visit. One of those three withdrew from the process and, as a result, we hosted two highly qualified candidates and their spouses for a day and a half each in November. During the visits the candidates met with faculty, staff, students, parents and members of the Board of Trustees and Search Committee.

Throughout the week of Thanksgiving, the Search Committee processed all they had learned about the candidates and prayed for discernment. First and foremost, we required a leader whose personal and professional life is deeply rooted in Christ. We wanted someone who is both personable and approachable, and who will preserve our deep sense of community. The ability to think strategically, work collaboratively and value the uniqueness of an academically rigorous, Christ-centered K-8 school was also very important. Finally, we were seeking a leader who could articulate a vision that aligns with our own mission, vision and core values.

Early last week the Search Committee made a recommendation to the Board and the Board unanimously voted to appoint Aaron to serve as our next Head of School, effective July 1, 2017.

Aaron and his wife, Jennie, are strong Christians who love God, love others, and are raising two young sons: Eli (rising 3rd grade) and Austin (rising K). Aaron holds a

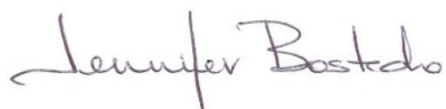
Bachelor of Science in Psychology, focused on children and adolescent development, and Master's degrees in Religion and Religious Education from Liberty University. He also holds a Specialist degree in Educational Leadership and is currently on track to complete his Doctorate in Educational Leadership this summer. Aaron is an experienced teacher and boys varsity soccer coach and he currently serves as the Director of Christian Life at Mount Paran Christian School, a highly regarded K-12 school just north of Atlanta, where he leads the school's faith based activities across all grade levels. Under the leadership of his mentor and current Headmaster, Dr. David Tilley, Aaron also serves on the school's Executive Council, a small group of school leaders who focus on strategic planning, enrollment, development, marketing, academics, and school culture. It was this experience and exposure to the various areas of an independent Christian school that attracted us to Aaron as a top candidate. Aaron's energy, passion, and ability to clearly articulate his thoughts are immediately evident. We are confident his insight and expressed desire to continually learn, improve, and collaborate will both support the strong foundation we have built and provide the leadership we need for future growth. We are delighted you will hear directly from Aaron in the coming days.

Aaron will officially join The Christ School in May 2017 during our post-planning week with faculty. As we work through the leadership transition, he will also visit our campus a few times next semester to meet with the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff. **Your first opportunity to meet Aaron will be this Monday, December 12th.** Aaron will be our guest speaker in chapel where he will introduce himself to the students and our school community. Immediately following chapel we hope you will join us for a coffee reception in King Parlor at 8:45 a.m. where you will have the opportunity to speak further with Aaron.

The Christ School has been blessed by the leadership of Dr. Jason Powell for more than a decade. During this time of transition, we have faith that God will continue to bless us through Aaron's energy, passion, and commitment to our mission. Please keep both leaders in your prayers as we move through the exciting months ahead.

On behalf of the Board I want to thank Jim Adare for his support and assistance throughout this process and the members of the Search Committee, who worked tirelessly the past few months. I also want to thank you, our entire school community, for your continual words of encouragement. Your trust and support is evidence that we are Lion Strong!

To God alone be the glory!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Bostedo". The ink is a light purple or blue color. The signature is fluid and matches the printed name below it.

Jennifer Bostedo
Board of Trustees, Chair