

January 12, 2017

Dear Members of the WIS Community:

It has been my pleasure and privilege to get to know Clayton over the last nine years, both from my initial perspective as a WIS parent and over the course of my tenure as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Clayton has led our School with aplomb, continuing to enhance WIS's already strong position in the world of international education.

Ultimately, the measure of success of any organization is how well it executes its mission. WIS's mission "to provide a demanding international education that will challenge students to become responsible and effective world citizens" is a clear articulation of who we are as a community and the type of education we expect our School to provide. During Clayton's tenure, our students' IB scores—which already exceeded world-wide averages—have continued to increase. We should also take pride in the roles our graduates assume as they carry out the School mission in their post-WIS lives.

Under Clayton's leadership, WIS has attracted record enrollment with significant representation of the global community in our student body. In addition, WIS has achieved record results in philanthropy at levels that were unimaginable only a few years ago, enhancing our financial reserves and contributing significantly to the long-term vitality of the School.

Clayton recognizes students cannot succeed without exceptional teaching, and one of his highest priorities has been to promote the development of our teachers. Under his leadership, WIS has enhanced its commitment to professional development by strengthening the School's ties to Harvard University's Project Zero and by founding the WIS Summer Institute for Teachers (WISSIT), a ground-breaking collaboration between public and private education.

Clayton also has been instrumental in improving our facilities, and by extension the educational experience of our students. During the past nine years, we have seen the opening of the AAA building; construction of a regulation-size soccer field and outdoor basketball court at Tregaron; a full renovation and repurposing of the Mansion, Greenhouse and Gardener's Cottage; and installation of geothermal wells; as well as the completion of a significant addition at the Primary School.

If you enter a classroom on either campus, talk with a student, discuss our program with a teacher, watch our athletes and performers excel on the field or in the theater, listen to our fifth-graders speak at Exhibition or our tenth-graders present their independent study projects, you will feel Clayton's influence. It is my strong belief that WIS would not be the internationally recognized school it is today without Clayton's leadership over the past decade.

As WIS marks the culmination of its 50th anniversary celebration and looks to the next fifty years, it is important that our community considers the optimal skillset for the next leader of this cherished institution. One of the most important duties of the Board of Trustees is the selection of a Head of School. To assist with the search for our new Head, the Board has established a Search Committee and retained Carney Sandoe & Associates, one of the most experienced independent school executive search firms in the world. The Executive Committee of the Board has asked Marc Williamson, a trustee and WIS parent, to chair the Search Committee. I will serve on the Search Committee, along with trustees Bruce Brown, Carolyn Campbell, Ayanna Dunn '93, Diana Farrell, Sophie Hawkins, and Miguel Savastano.

We will have many opportunities over the next 18 months to gather as a community to celebrate Clayton and thank him for his tremendous contributions to WIS. I look forward to seeing and speaking with many of you.

Sincerely,



David Muenzer
Chair, Board of Trustees