



# PINE FORGE ACADEMY

PINE FORGE | PENNSYLVANIA | 1946

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## FAREWELL LETTER

Dear Pine Forge Academy Families and Friends,

I am writing to you today as a grateful member of the Pine Forge Academy community that I have been so proud to serve as Headmistress for the past four years. As a leader, an educator, a colleague, a friend and a church member, I've experienced every facet of our remarkable school. It has been an honor to work with the many exceptionally gifted educators, persons, AEC pastors and leaders, and PFA trustees who contribute to a thriving academic environment and guide, nurture and help our students reach their full potential, in and outside the classroom, for now and for eternity.

It is with sadness that I share that my family and I will conclude our time - in our current position - with Pine Forge Academy at the end of the school year. My husband has earned a promotion to a Regional Vice-Presidency for Olympus, Inc that necessitates our family's relocation.

As you can imagine this was not an easy decision for my family and me. The Pine Forge Academy community has been a home for us and we have been blessed to participate in the advancement and achievements of the Academy over the last four years.

Pine Forge Academy finds itself on solid instructional and operational footing and in a very strong position to continue to grow and evolve into the premier Seventh-day Adventist educational institution in North American Division. There will be plenty of time to reflect on everything we've achieved, but here and now I simply want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to co-labor with you in the most important ministry - the preparation and salvation of our children.

I have invited the Superintendent of AEC Schools, AEC and the PFA BOT to consider engaging me in an intentional succession plan once the new leader has been selected. The key to organizational effectiveness and sustained success is the thoughtful transition between leaders. We see the biblical model in Moses and

Joshua. Should they consider that opportunity, it would be an honor - to continue to work with Pine Forge Academy in a slightly different capacity over the coming months and years. If they choose not, I am confident that the Academy will benefit from strong and competent leadership moving forward. Finally, the AEC and PFABOT teams will keep you posted regarding the search for a new leader.

I look forward to continuing the important work ahead for the next five months alongside the talented, committed and versatile Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees, Allegheny East Conference Executive Leadership and Pine Forge Academy leadership team, as well as the outstanding PFA faculty and staff. Again, on behalf of my husband Casey, our son Blaise and our little bean due in the summer - we thank you for allowing us to be of service.

With sincere gratitude and humility,



Nicole Hughes,  
Headmistress



## RESPONSE LETTER

Dear Members of the Pine Forge Academy Community,

I write today to express the Board of Trustees' deep gratitude to our Headmistress, Nicole Hughes, as she announces she will conclude her successful tenure leading the day to day operations of Pine Forge Academy at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

Over the past four years, Nicole has been a compassionate, principled leader, always seeking ways to enhance the program for the betterment of our students. As a result, Pine Forge Academy has flourished academically, thrived as a community and transformed physically. Her accomplishments are numerous and have established the framework for continued success at the Academy.

Under her watch, Nicole has fostered an environment where teachers and deans help our students excel. Her vision and strong work ethic coupled with an immense broadening of the academic curriculum, has positively changed lives. Nicole has introduced data-driven instruction, ACT college readiness standard alignment, a Robotics program, dual credit courses with local community colleges and distant learning with national colleges, hired highly competent staff, engaged with the

NPFAAA in fundraising more than half-a-million dollars for the Academy including grants and gifts, increased Academy rigor, successfully met the challenges of re-accreditation, improved the Academy's brand through social media, a school phone app and other outlets, established a garden and greenhouse, initiated the first phase of the all-school work program and much more.

As for the campus, Pine Forge Academy has improved since Nicole's arrival in 2014, including renovated spaces in the boys and girls dorms and a new two classroom facility on the campus.

Simply put, Nicole has encouraged us to embrace forward thinking and catalyze thoughtful change while honoring our school's traditions.

I have immediately begun the process of forming a Search Committee for our next headmaster. In the coming weeks, we will have this Committee rounded out with key PFA leaders and will communicate with you all during the process. Based on the foundation that Nicole established, PFA will continue to thrive and adapt so our students may lead happy and productive lives.

Please join me in thanking Nicole for all that she has done for our school, and congratulating her husband Casey on his promotion and wishing them and their wonderful children (Blaise and a little bean to arrive in August) the very best. My best wishes to everyone for a successful remainder of 2017-2018 school year.

God bless you!

Sincerely,

Henry Fordham  
Chairman of the Board

John Alberty  
Superintendent of AEC Schools

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