



# SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

## A Great Hearts Academy

16537 North 92nd Street | Scottsdale, AZ 85260 | Office: (480) 776-1970 | Fax: (480) 476-1975 | [www.scottsdaleprep.org](http://www.scottsdaleprep.org)

May 27, 2021

Dear Scottsdale Prep Families,

As this school year and my time at Scottsdale Prep comes to a close, I have been afforded several opportunities to reflect on the history and legacy of our community. Since our first year (2008) in a very small building, with a passionate group of new teachers and families, we were that tiny school that offered something different in Scottsdale – a unique opportunity for children to pursue a classical, liberal arts education. Families took a chance and joined us, and we were all in it together! The palpable sense of community continued, even as we moved to this building in 2011. Now 13 years later, we all find inspiration in seeing *who our students become* as a result of this rich education, devoted to awakening their minds and hearts to great books and great conversation. As we graduate our 10<sup>th</sup> class of seniors this year, it is fitting to stop and consider the transformational nature of their education, and how it will help them frame their future.

My office has been flooded with flowers and cards of appreciation from student and families, and I have been truly blessed by your kinds words and sentiments. The plaque from families included a beautiful inscription, of which one line stood out, “You taught our students to strive for knowledge, seek purpose, find courage, and never yield to ignorance.” We are all here for this important purpose, and I would like to thank our teachers and staff for cultivating our students in these ways, particularly in this very challenging year.

As I depart our campus later in June, I look forward to handing the baton to the magnanimous and able Mr. Brett Gilfillan, who will lead this school into the new school year, maintaining our core mission to educate students in the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty. He will be surrounded by a great team of teachers and administration, and he will look to you, our supportive community of families, to surround the school with support and love. As I have said before, I look forward to cheering on from the sidelines, and perhaps attend a game on that new Spartan field (of course, with Mr. Gilfillan’s approval)!

*“To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.”*

Onward, Spartans!

*Alison Chaney*

Alison Chaney, Headmaster