



FORMAN

January 16, 2023

To the Forman Community:

As you have read, Adam K. Man has announced his decision to retire at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. I am deeply grateful for the leadership Adam and Beth have offered over the last decade and a half, excited for what lies ahead for the Mans, and sad to know our partnership is nearing a conclusion.

Everyone in the Forman community who has had the pleasure of interacting with this couple knows of their positive impact on Forman. Our students, alums, faculty, staff, and campus are all better off for their time here. Adam's positive impact on the school has come in ways both seen and unseen, quantifiable and immeasurable. Under his leadership, the school has advanced in every area.

Enrollment has grown significantly, with students arriving in Litchfield each fall from across the U.S. and several foreign countries. Much of the success in attracting students can be attributed to the tremendous team of faculty and administrators Adam has built over his time on campus. Boarding school faculty are special in that they have the unique opportunity to interact with students at all hours of the day, both in and out of the classroom. Only by creating and fostering a strong, engaged team can the school fulfill its mission of developing students who become educated and confident self-advocates throughout life.

The development of faculty has been supported by enhancements to the campus. Dorms have been renovated, and facilities, most recently the Malcolm G. Chace Student Center, have undergone major upgrades and improvements. Under Adam's leadership, the school has also created the Promethean Lab and related course offerings and built a top-notch Science Center and state-of-the-art Visual and Performing Arts Center—adding to the students' educational experiences and enhancing cultural opportunities on campus.

All of this has been accomplished while strengthening the school's finances. The school's balance sheet is strong, and the school has the cash and liquidity to meet any short-term challenges. Alumni support has risen, with Annual Fund drives hovering around \$1 million per year amid increased participation—dramatic improvements since Adam's arrival.

While desiring to take on new challenges, Adam has graciously agreed to remain at Forman until the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year. Much of his time will be spent on the road, raising funds for the creation of a new, freestanding Cognition and Learning Center and redesigning much of the athletic complex to incorporate turf fields. These two projects will solidify Adam's legacy at Forman and leave the school in excellent shape for his successor.

The search for Forman's next Head of School will begin soon. The Board is creating a search committee whose first task will be to select an executive search firm with an experienced independent school leadership recruitment practice. There will be a range of opportunities for members of the Forman community—faculty and staff, students, families, and alumni—to offer their input, aspirations, and perspectives on the future of Forman. We will provide regular updates as the search process progresses.

In the meantime, please use the time we have remaining with Adam and Beth to reach out to them, joining me in gratitude for all they have done for Forman and wishing them the best in their next endeavors.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Ebbert P'16
President, Board of Trustees