

I would first like to thank you for your tremendous support upon my appointment as Headmaster of Eagle Hill School. I sincerely appreciate the vote of confidence. As many of you know, I have big shoes to fill—both literally and figuratively. I am very excited about the opportunity and welcome the challenges.

I am fortunate to take the helm at this time in the school's history. Unlike most Head of School transitions, we are not in need of a major overhaul, a different philosophy, or a revised mission. By contrast, the vision, diligence, and tireless effort of my predecessors has established a solid educational and structural foundation upon which to build. Clearly, we must embrace that foundation as a window to the future.

I have taken this position amidst a global backdrop of trepidation and uncertainty. The Asian recession, the “impending” ’2000 computer glitch, potential Presidential scandals, and nuclear proliferation are but a few of the issues that we, as a nation, must address in the near future. However, despite the seemingly complex nature of these problems, we remain confident that our collective intelligence, leadership, and perseverance will guide us to continued prosperity.

On a different level, we face analogous challenges and doubts at private schools as we look to the future. For example, the qualifications of teachers, the pace of changing technology, the expenses of schools exceeding tuition monies, and the widening gap between public and private school salaries will all test the resolve of independent schools. Mirroring what we confront nationally, at Eagle Hill School, our ability to address serious concerns and adapt to rapid changes will determine our viability for years to come.

The hallmark of Eagle Hill School has always been a dedicated and skilled faculty. Being an Eagle Hill teacher is less of a job and more of a calling. Each year, increased continuity and depth of experience among our faculty helps ensure our students the best education possible. Appropriately, retaining our teachers is of paramount concern. As Headmaster, I will take every step possible to accomplish this basic goal.

In addition to attracting and keeping the best possible faculty, we must continue to improve our physical plant and to develop technologically. Collectively, the newly built library and classroom complex, the advent of a final new dormitory, and the imminent completion of a campus-wide computer platform, will soon become the embodiment of that philosophy. We hope that this well-planned structural response to our programmatic needs will secure Eagle Hill's future.

To achieve these goals, Eagle Hill cannot continue to be purely tuition driven. In response to this realization, we established a development office one year ago to create programs to supplement tuition dollars. During the course of this past year, your support of our Capital Campaign and auction has given us a glimpse of how successful we can be in this arena. Next year, in addition to continuing the Capital Campaign, we will implement an Annual Fund, begin an endowment, and develop a planned giving program. We hope this diverse fundraising effort accomplishes our goal of 100% participation

from the Eagle Hill community. These initiatives, and our options for continued overall improvement, depend greatly on your participation and generosity. Accordingly, I ask each of you to empower us with the resources necessary to maintain the level of excellence that is synonymous with Eagle Hill.

I believe we can accomplish these ambitious projects by employing simple time-tested precepts. We will continue to build and to refine—both structurally and educationally—while maintaining the integrity of our mission. We will continue to hire and train the finest people and educators. We will continue to develop our long-term financial stability. However, we need you help to succeed. Together, we are the difference in the lives and futures of these young learners.