

February 5, 2010

To the Academy Community:

A new decade, a new year, and – while more snow is promised – the forces that will give us spring are stirring. This is the season for re-enrollment, and contracts for the 2010-11 academic year are in the mail. I am pleased to report a particularly important re-enrollment: Jim Newman and I have signed his agreement to continue as Head of School for four more years.

Jim became Head of School in June 2003. Under his leadership, the Academy has accomplished much, including:

- certification allowing the Upper School to participate in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program
- a successful evaluation by the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools and subsequent re-accreditation
- raising nearly \$1,000,000 for a Faculty Endowment and managing the creation of the Harrisburg Academy Foundation to hold and grow our endowed funds
- development of a new five-year strategic plan – Challenge 2013

2009 was an especially turbulent year for independent schools, just as it was for all of us. Yet, the Academy's enrollment, while down, was more stable than that of many independent schools. We achieved our second highest annual fund level and received nearly \$100,000 in grants, which is another record. These results demonstrate both commitment to the Academy and confidence in Jim's vision and leadership.

The Board of Trustees shares that confidence. Jim, his administrative staff, and faculty are developing new programs, keeping up with rapidly evolving technology, and finding new ways to assure that our children are learning to think critically and creatively. I am sure I speak for the Board in saying that I am happy to be his colleague in guiding this marvelous school.

Sincerely,



Thomas B. Schmidt III
President, Board of Trustees