



National Association
of Episcopal Schools
Excellence Through Association

National Association
of Episcopal Schools
815 Second Avenue
Eighth Floor
New York, NY 10017

Toll free (800) 334-7626, ext. 6134
Direct dial (212) 716-6134
Fax (212) 286-9366
Email info@episcopalschools.org
Web www.episcopalschools.org

Dear Friends,

I write to you to inform you of some news about leadership transitions that will be taking place with the National Association of Episcopal Schools, over the upcoming two years. These transitions come after a period of great stability in the life of our association, and are transitions that our association's leadership has been anticipating for some time.

Our Associate Director, Ann Mellow, shared with me earlier this year her intention to retire in the summer of 2021. Ann has been with the association since 2008, and all of us know the essential role she has played in carrying out the mission of NAES. Her wisdom, experience, boundless energy, and extent of knowledge about Episcopal schools is unrivaled; she is truly the "go to person" when schools contact us, seeking much needed advice and perspective on problems related to governance, church-school relations, and school operations. Working with her has been a delight for me, and I am deeply grateful for her dedication to Episcopal schools. For a great many of these schools, Ann has been the principal face of the association, and she will be deeply missed, upon her retirement, by all of our member schools, not to mention the larger independent school world.

As for myself, I have been targeting the summer of 2022 as the time when I would retire. I am letting you know of this official decision with you now given the leadership transition plan the Governing Board and I have developed. In the upcoming months the NAES Governing Board will initiate a search for my successor, with the goal of having that person in place to undertake, with me, a year of transition, beginning in the summer of 2021.

My time as Executive Director has been a most exhilarating and satisfying period for me, truly the capstone of my ministry, and I look forward to continuing to dedicate my energy and vision to the work of the association over the next two and half years. With Ann's invaluable help, along with the support of an exemplary NAES staff, we have made many strides: a successful anniversary campaign, the development of a chaplains' mentoring program, an expanded array of online offerings, conferences of consistently high quality, the establishment of a legacy society, the development and execution of two strategic plans, and tremendous growth in our Annual Fund. All the while, we have maintained a high degree of responsiveness to the needs of our member schools, the activity that lies at the heart of our daily work of serving Episcopal schools.

Any association that has experienced the stability of leadership we have, over the past thirteen years, can count itself blessed. Inevitably, the path of stability leads toward retirements. I feel confident that our Governing Board is prepared to undertake this important transition of leadership, and that the vital work of this highly regarded association will continue to thrive in the years ahead.

Yours faithfully,

The Rev. Daniel R. Heischman, D.D.
Executive Director