



March 5, 2019

Dear Commonwealth Families,

I hope this letter finds all doing well and looking forward to what promises to be an excellent third quarter at Commonwealth Academy.

I am thrilled and honored to be joining the community as the next Head of School, in a history of excellent leaders who have made Commonwealth the strong college-preparatory institution that it is today. An example in education, the school is known for its academic excellence, specialized and differentiated instruction, thoughtful innovation, and for its strong commitment to young people. I am looking forward to personally meeting the students and to spending more time with all members of the community as I begin to transition into my new role at Commonwealth over the next several months, beginning officially in July 2019.

As a Northern Virginia resident for over twenty years now, I have had the privilege of getting to know and of admiring Commonwealth Academy for quite some time. The importance that the school gives to forward-thinking education in an atmosphere of joyful collaboration that fosters self-knowledge, acceptance, excellence, and the building of community is highly impressive. So are its efforts to promote a robust, integrated program while creating a learning environment anchored in a spirit of individuality, intellectual and emotional safety, and mutual respect. Commonwealth is an outstanding student-centered, high-standard college-preparatory school that lives its mission, and one I will be proud to call my new home.

In each of the conversations I have had with members of the community, I have been struck by everyone's deep passion for the school and its mission. I also have been taken with the collective desire to continue to grow and sustain a thriving, cohesive, and collegial community. What has stood out most, however, has been the persistent and dedicated focus on students, teachers, and program. All students can succeed and thrive when provided with a responsive teaching approach in a nurturing atmosphere. Strong school communities must not only cultivate relationships, they also must foster diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning environments. Commonwealth has demonstrated strong leadership in this area, and its compelling desire to further refine the student experience and to explore what students need to continue to be successful in a rapidly evolving world is an inspiration. This can only happen with the leadership of talented and enthusiastic faculty, and I look forward to working with this incredible group of educators to build upon the school's strong foundation.

Over the coming months, my focus will be on working with the Board of Trustees and with faculty and staff, in order to learn more about the school and plan the year ahead. I will also begin to establish relationships with the members of the community at large, whom I am eager to get to know.

I look forward to meeting and partnering with you. I wish you all the best for a successful and joy-filled rest of the school year.

Warm Regards,
Anabelle C. Morgan

**EMPOWER
THE CHILD.**

**EMPOWER
THE MIND.**