



## THE VANGUARD SCHOOL

April 8, 2019

Dear Vanguard School Community:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of The Vanguard School, and with deep gratitude and admiration for his leadership over the past six years, I announce and inform you about Harold Maready's decision to retire after fifty years in education. The 2019-2020 school year will be his last as Head of School.

Harold's commitment to Vanguard School and to every child who walked through its doors has inspired us all. In concert with a team of extraordinary educators, Harold has led Vanguard to reach its highest enrollment in many years, nurtured and clarified a rich curriculum, established vital partnerships across Florida, and begun an ambitious rebuilding of the campus infrastructure. Although the effort has required a tremendous amount of time and intense focus from many in the Vanguard community, we have all mutually benefited from his accomplishments.

The board and I are truly proud of and excited for Harold as he anticipates retirement and new adventures. We are all grateful for the many gifts he has bestowed upon our beloved School. It is because of him that we are so well prepared for the transition ahead. Harold will continue to lead Vanguard through the 2019-2020 school year with the same dedication and zeal that has characterized his leadership over the past five years. I have asked Charles Baldwin, who serves on our board, to help me organize a search committee, which is representative of the various constituencies in our School community. We have chosen, and will be working with, a well-respected and highly effective national search firm to assist with the process of finding Vanguard's next leader, someone worthy of following in Harold's footsteps and continue in leading the School into a bright future.

The Search Committee members are as follows:

Board Members: Charlie Baldwin (Search Committee Chair), Peter Phillips (Board Chair), John Murphy, Tom Owen, June Ullman, George Andrews, Howard Kay and Lili Geehr.

Staff Representatives include, Marya Marcum-Jones (Principal), Kris Fitzgerald (Director of Residential Life) and Bobbie Halfacre (Teacher). Dr. Jerry Larson is our consultant.

We are fortunate to live and participate in such a time of promising change. As we look to the future, we are clearly grateful to have Harold present for this exciting new transition. I know he will continue to lead and inspire, as he has done throughout his tenure. We will have ample time to celebrate the collective accomplishments of the last six years and wish both Harold and Sue well, when the 2020 school year comes to a close.

Best Regards,

Peter Phillips  
Chair, Board of Trustees

22000 U.S. Highway 27 Lake Wales, Florida 33859-6858 Ph: (863) 676-6091 F: (863) 676-8297 W: [www.vanguardschool.org](http://www.vanguardschool.org)

---