



CHURCHILL

CENTER & SCHOOL

National Leader in Learning Disabilities

June 19, 2020

Dear Churchill Center & School Community,

I am both honored and excited to begin my tenure as the second Head of School for our much-loved Churchill Center & School. So much has changed since I joined the faculty 36 years ago. I could never have imagined the growth and success that Churchill has enjoyed. I am humbled to succeed our Founding Director, Sandi Gilligan, who has been my mentor, my colleague and most importantly, my friend. I will be forever grateful for her 42 years of vision, compassion and leadership.

As I assume the role of Head, our school is a nationally recognized leader in the field of learning disabilities. Together with our extraordinary team, I am committed to continuing to strengthen our child-centered program while also seeking new ways to deliver excellence in all that we do. Our focus will remain on providing the finest, individualized remedial education while developing and empowering our students towards becoming happy, healthy and successful learners.

I also intend to expand our Community Outreach Program, both in the St. Louis area and nationally. This fall, we will be sharing our expertise with area educators in two charter schools so that more children with learning disabilities will benefit from our knowledge and experience. In order to serve a diverse and economically disadvantaged group of students we have decided to continue with KIPP while also beginning a relationship with The Arch Community School (TACS), both located in the city of St. Louis.

With respect to the 2020-21 school year, we fully intend on opening for on-campus classroom learning on August 24th provided that it will be safe for students to do so. We are most fortunate that, given the number of students enrolled and the ample size of our classrooms, all students at our school will be able to be on campus every day, all day, assuming in-classroom learning is an option. If on-campus learning is not possible, we will start the year with synchronized distance learning. Our re-opening steering committee has been working diligently on detailed plans for both scenarios – developing additional necessary safeguards if our students are on campus and identifying ways to enrich our distance learning model, if that becomes necessary. We will communicate over the summer to share more information as we finalize our plans.

Finally, I feel I must address the recent pain, anger and sadness caused by the deaths of George Floyd – among others, named and unnamed, and the resulting protests and activism demanding change. We unequivocally denounce racism in all its forms and affirm that Black Lives Matter. Our campus remains inclusive, welcoming, and a place where all are treated with dignity and respect.

You have entrusted your child's educational and emotional development to the Churchill team; that is the greatest gift you can give us. We will work each day to continue to earn your trust.

I look forward to working closely with you, not just as your new Head of School, but as someone who has come to know and treasure this community with its talented, dedicated, and passionate faculty and staff, bright and engaged students, and devoted and caring parents.

All my best,

Anne Evers
Head of School

