



March 10, 2016

Dear Roycemore School Community:

It is with mixed emotions that I am writing you to share with you that this school year will be my last at Roycemore School. I say this because Maria and I have a deep affection for the school and it is where our son began his academic career. Here I found a community intent on inspiring excellence in its students and appreciating the individuality of each. I discovered an amazing passion among faculty and staff, and a steadfast, heartening commitment to the success of each child. Roycemore has become our community as well, and, like you, I know that it's simply amazing.

Much has changed for my family since we arrived in Evanston. Foremost, as a family, we have made a decision to immerse ourselves more deeply in our Catholic faith. As a result, I have accepted the opportunity to lead Monte Cassino School, a Catholic Independent School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. While we look forward to this opportunity, we also look forward to our final months at Roycemore, particularly celebrating the school's Centennial Weekend in May.

This year Roycemore School celebrates 100 years of outstanding college preparatory education in Evanston. Maria and I are thrilled to have been a part of the community at such a defining moment in time, and I am honored to have played a part in rounding out these ten decades of success. In partnership with the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff, parent community and students we have advanced a number of initiatives that impact our students and the quality of their education each day. I am most proud of the way the community has come together to advance a strategic plan, increase support for the school, build relationships in the community, and start the Roycemore Family Association.

Because of the quality of its people, Roycemore School is poised to lead well into the future. In this letter I want to tip my hat to two groups in particular that are absolutely critical to sustaining the school's success today and into its very exciting future.

There exists no strong school without great people on the front line. The heart and soul of Roycemore is its indispensable, talented, creative, tirelessly dedicated faculty and staff. Life presents precious few chances to join with others who are serving at such a high level of performance so I have cherished my time with this group.

There exists no strong school without talented governance. Roycemore will continue to benefit from the sustaining and passionate commitment of its visionary Board of Trustees. The Board's strong leadership, as well as their compassionate support for my family, have nurtured and reinforced my capacity as Headmaster, and will sustain Roycemore School's sure footing in coming years and decades.

Our faith helps us know that this is the right time for our family to make this transition. Roycemore School will have incredible successes in its future while it sustains its very unique culture. Down the road, we'll always look fondly on our years here. We'll never stop wanting to hear about the many accomplishments of Roycemore's students and community.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Smith
Headmaster



March 10, 2016

Dear Roycemore School Families and Friends:

After serving as Headmaster for three years, during which he has guided Roycemore through a period of significant transition, Kevin Smith will be leaving on June 30, 2016 to take a position as Head of School at Monte Cassino School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Personally and on behalf of our entire community, I wish to thank Kevin for his service to Roycemore, its mission, and its students. We will continue to give Kevin our full support through the end of his term, and we certainly wish the best for Kevin, Maria, TJ and Maggie in this new chapter of their lives.

Faced with the importance of continuing the many positive aspects of the School and recognizing the care and consideration that must go into the search for Kevin's permanent replacement, the trustees have determined that an interim appointment is the best next step.

Beginning July 1, 2016, Clark J. Daggett will become the interim Headmaster of Roycemore School. Clark has considerable independent school leadership experience, having served as head of school at Crossroads College Prep in St. Louis, MO and Cape Cod Academy in Osterville, MA. We are also fortunate that Clark already has a great understanding of Roycemore's strengths and is known to many in our community through his recent service as a trustee and member of the School's Strategic Planning Task Force.

Clark holds a B.A. degree in Social and Behavioral Science from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Letters from Drew University. A native of New Jersey, Clark and his wife, Claudia, have resided in Chicago since 2014.

Clark has been described by former administrators and faculty as "a man of enormous integrity," who is "always patient and respectful," and "has a calm intelligence in his way of doing things." In observing Clark while head of school at Cape Cod Academy, the Visiting Committee of the New England Association of Schools & Colleges described him as follows:

Mr. Daggett is ubiquitous at CCA, whether strolling the halls, standing outside his office or ringing the morning bell, and was praised by teachers as a true "head-master" who serves as both an administrator and a teacher. Students with whom we spoke had high praise for him and felt he possessed an appropriate mix of gravitas and familiarity. Several seniors indicated that they feel very comfortable going to him with any problems or concerns they might have and praised him as a teacher... This signals a tremendous amount of trust in Mr. Daggett and a deserved recognition of his leadership qualities.

I think you will agree that Roycemore is indeed fortunate to have Clark as its interim Headmaster!

Over the next few months, we will schedule several events and opportunities for everyone to meet Clark and welcome him into his new role in our community. Also during this time, the Board of Trustees will be working closely with Kevin and Clark to ensure the transition of leadership is seamless and the daily operations of the school remain unaffected.

Thank you for your continued support of Roycemore School.

Kindest regards,

Thomas J. Ellis
Chair, Board of Trustees