



December 16, 2025

Dear Keswick School families,

After thirty-three years of service as Head of School, I write today with profound gratitude and a deep sense of continuity. Leading this institution has been the defining privilege of my professional life. Together, we have built a School that stands as a national example for therapeutic boarding schools. In this place, clinical care, academic rigor, and residential life are woven into a fabric of hope and transformation.

Over these decades, I have witnessed extraordinary growth: the expansion of our campus, the refinement of our therapeutic model, and the countless stories of students who arrived in need of support and left with renewed confidence and purpose. None of this would have been possible without the trust of families, the generosity of donors, and the steadfast commitment of our faculty and staff. It is your belief in our mission that has sustained Keswick and allowed us to flourish.

With the full support of the Board of Trustees, I will step down as Head of School at the end of this academic year. Yet my journey with Keswick continues. I will transition into the role of Director of Institutional Advancement, dedicating my energy to strengthening donor partnerships, advancing our fundraising initiatives, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our programs. This new chapter allows me to remain deeply connected to our mission while supporting the next generation of leadership.

I am delighted to share that the Board has appointed Jody Berkey as our next Head of School. She brings vision, compassion, and a deep understanding of our therapeutic community. I have every confidence that Jody will honor our traditions while guiding Keswick into a future of even greater impact. Her leadership style reflects the values we hold dear: collaboration, integrity, commitment, intentionality, and a relentless focus on student well-being. Please join me in welcoming her into this role with the same trust and partnership you have extended to me.

Transitions of leadership are moments of renewal. They remind us that institutions endure not because of one individual, but because of the collective strength of the community. I remain committed to supporting Jody and to ensuring that this handover is smooth, thoughtful, and aligned with our mission. Together, we will continue to build upon the foundation we have laid, ensuring that Keswick remains a beacon of hope for generations to come.

To our staff, families, alumni, donors, and friends: thank you for your trust and generosity across these decades. Your support has transformed countless lives. As we look ahead, I invite you to continue walking with us, confident that Keswick's best chapters are yet to be written.

With gratitude and commitment,

*Marc Columbus*

Head of School