



November 17, 2008

Dear Heathwood Hall Episcopal School Community:

Thankful.

Never has a word been more appropriate for what my family and I are feeling as we prepare not only for the holiday season, but also for our new life in Columbia and at Heathwood Hall.

I remember, quite vividly, the first time Shea and I visited Heathwood Hall. As we explored the campus on that hot June day, we laughed and remarked on the striking similarities between my pedagogical checklist of what I've most respected in the schools where I've worked and Heathwood Hall, where we hope the pinnacle of my life's work and the education of our three children will take place. Even then, we knew we'd found our new home.

To say I am looking forward to my new role with excitement and optimism would be a fairly sizable understatement. That I'm humbled by the opportunity to lead such a fine institution – one that has been cherished by generations one life at a time – is an even bigger one.

I have been familiar with Heathwood Hall's excellent reputation for a while. During the search process, I kept coming back to Heathwood Hall because of one reason: Its authenticity. Heathwood Hall not only markets itself as an innovative school that knows and inspires every child, it actually *is*. It is this quality that, I believe, distinguishes our school from others.

We all are fortunate that Heathwood Hall exists on a foundation that is both strong and forward thinking. I aspire to build upon this foundation, as I believe we can be one of the very best independent schools in the country. I'll need your help to take us to the next level, so I'll be listening and observing quite a lot.

On behalf of Shea and our children – Charlie, Reece and Cooper – I wish you a blessed holiday season and look forward to joining the Heathwood Hall family in person, not just in spirit . . .

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each name being significantly larger and more stylized.

Chuck Jones
Incoming Head of School