



# THE CRAIG SCHOOL

## NOTES *from the* CHAIRMAN

SUMMER 2017

**CRAIG**  
**High School**  
**JUNE 9**  
**GRADUATION**



*Join the  
Celebration!*

**CRAIG**  
**Middle School**  
**JUNE 16**  
**GRADUATION**



**JULY 10**  
*Summer  
Program  
Begins*

## DEAR CRAIG FAMILY:

**I HOPE THAT EVERYONE HAD A VERY NICE MEMORIAL DAY.** The end of another school year is near, and what a year it has been! We have seen it start with the opening of our new Reeth-Furlong Gymnasium, and are seeing it close with the renovations for the second floor of the Wilson Building. Very nice book ends to a great and successful year that included our NJAIS accreditation process, which came with some very complimentary commentary!

Not lost among the Board focus on those strategic elements, is that ultimately, it is all about the students and enabling the teachers to provide the best learning environment possible. As such, all of the efforts are planned in collaboration with the faculty and staff. Whether it is the configuration of the space, the best assistive technologies, the ergonomics of the furniture and décor, or the ongoing enrichment of the faculty, all are targeted towards that mission. If you have not had a chance to see things coming together in the renovations, I encourage you to do so—it is exciting to see what our students will get to leverage next year! We are planning for a grand opening when we return to school in September. Stay tuned for details.

I want to recognize and thank two retiring Board members. **Carol Berman** has been a tremendous asset to the Board, among other things, serving as the Chair of the Committee on Trustees, driving the search for our Head of School, updates and adherence to our by-laws, and providing counsel on occasions too numerous to mention. **Suzanne Purdy's** support of the renovation efforts and being an important contributor to the Finance Committee have been invaluable. I thank them both for their great contributions, and want them to know that they will be missed.

On a personal note, this is a very exciting time for us, as Ryan graduates this June, and will be heading next year to Mitchell College in New London, CT (his twin sister, Laura, is going to Lafayette College in Easton, PA). It has been amazing to see his growth and preparation for this next chapter in his life, which Craig has had such a wonderful hand in. My thanks go out to those that helped make this happen.

While I will remain on the Board, I will be stepping down as the Chair, so this will be my last edition of *Notes from the Chair*. I want to welcome **Frank Velocci** as the incoming Chair, and thank him for both taking on that mantel, and for the great work he has done in driving the renovations to date. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as the Chair, and I thank everyone involved for your support. I look forward to supporting Frank as he carries the momentum forward.

As always, I welcome your feedback. ***All my best, and have a great summer!***

*Chris*

**CHRIS COATES**  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

TURNING POTENTIAL INTO ACHIEVEMENT ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.