

Dear Green Acres Community Members,

I feel this is the right time to let you know that I have decided to leave Green Acres at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Over the next year, we will continue working together to provide an exceptional Green Acres experience for our students and their families.

By sharing this news now, I hope to provide Board Chair Josh Orenstein '82, the Executive Committee, and the full Board of Trustees sufficient time to manage a thoughtful, inclusive process for identifying my successor. Soon they will have more details to share, as well as invitations for ways that you can be involved. It's vital that your voice be heard as we make this critical choice for the school's future.

When I arrived at Green Acres in 2008, I never imagined the deep and lasting influence that this school and community would have on me, Laura, and our two children, Evan '14 and Lila '16. Laura and I talk often about how we've become better parents having raised our children among, and in partnership with, the Green Acres community. We feel that impact every day in our home, and I know that many of you feel the same way.

Our collective work distinguishes Green Acres as a leader in progressive education by building on our foundational principles with sensible 21st-century innovations. This commitment ensures that our graduates leave not only with the skills necessary to be successful in high school, but also with a strong sense of self, a commitment to respect and inclusion, and a genuine feeling of excitement about life and learning. This exceptional work is brought to life through the skill, dedication, and hard work of our staff members, our Board of Trustees, and our amazing parent volunteers. I particularly want to thank Board Chair Josh Orenstein '82 for his remarkable leadership and passion for Green Acres.

Next year, we will celebrate the 85th anniversary of Green Acres and re-affirm our commitment to another 85 years of progressive education. I look forward to maintaining the core and the spirit of what we do with children and families every day.

However, before we get too far down the road of planning for next year, I hope that you all will join me at graduation on June 10, where our students will once again demonstrate their interests and talents, as well as their understanding and appreciation of what they've gained from their time here.

Over the next year, I will continue to be fully engaged in this work with each of you. Together, we will ensure a successful 2019-2020 school year.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal M. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "N" and "B".

Neal M. Brown, Ed.D.

Head of School