Dear Highlanders, Families and Friends,

Greetings and best wishes for peace, joy, and an abundance of blessings throughout the New Year! It is with great humility and excitement that I (and my bride Gina) join the Highlander family. As background, Gina and I are both Illinois natives (one from a small prairie farm and the other the oldest of 12 children raised in a western Chicago suburb). We met on a blind date during the first week of our freshman year at the University of Illinois. Following graduation and commissioning in the United States Navy, we enjoyed a 34-year career filled with countless adventures around the world and the ongoing blessings of four wonderful children and now nine grandchildren. In my final active duty assignment, I had the privilege of serving as the Navy’s Chief Learning Officer responsible for all officer and enlisted training and education. Upon leaving the Navy, I was delighted to continue supporting the growth and development of young men and women by serving in several senior leadership positions at UCF for more than eight years.

Although we have no familial history with LHPS, I certainly feel a strong and proud affiliation having served as a member of the Board of Trustees for six years. I am consistently amazed by the incredible talent, unwavering dedication, and steadfast commitment of our faculty, staff, parents, and many community members who provide our students with an environment that inspires unparalleled learning and personal development.

The end result is a magnificent group of boys and girls who clearly understand daily challenges, hard work, disciplined persistence, and the joys of positive accomplishment. Well beyond intellectual prowess, our students rapidly mature into well-rounded, functional adults with the confidence and skills to meet and conquer life’s toughest challenges.

In case you might have missed my not-so-subtle message, I love Lake Highland Prep School and strongly believe there is nothing more dear than working to educate, nurture, and inspire our nation’s youth. That said, I think it is risky to revel in the status quo, so I am fully focused and energized to work with you to build an even better tomorrow. Each of us has something worthwhile to contribute to Lake Highland’s future successes, and together, we can achieve anything.

I eagerly look forward to working with you on our most important mission in the coming months. Thank you in advance for your individual and collective efforts to help improve and sustain our journey of excellence in preparing young boys and girls for the rest of their lives.

Sincerely,

Al Harms,
President