



*A middle school for boys*

April 14, 2010

Dear Students, Alumni, and Parents,

There is great news! At last evening's meeting of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee confirmed that additional space will be delivered on schedule for this fall and that the time to expand the Bridge program while reducing class size has come.

Before school opens this fall, our unoccupied middle-sized building will be fully operational. This is great news for many reasons, but I want to focus on the most important opportunity this additional space creates. The added classrooms will help us to realize, once and for all, our goal of having Bridge classes with no more than 12 boys, which is key in supplying the kind of individualized attention we aim to provide each boy.

Our two Bridge classes will share equal access to the Bridge teachers. The teachers will work in a combination schedule while also focusing on small-group projects across both classes to ensure full-class cohesion.

This exciting opportunity (the newly renovated building and second Bridge class) will allow our Assistant Heads to each receive administrative assistance. With additional staff support, the Head of School and Assistant Heads can focus more time on what they do best -- direct involvement every day in the life and learning of each boy.

Some of the other important benefits from this new opportunity include:

- We will be able to complement our full-time teachers by adding faculty members to the teaching team. With a small school like ours (with so many activities and events), having more teachers on staff will prove to be invaluable.
- We will be better positioned to hold down tuition increases, important for our families and the nature of our school.
- We will benefit from the addition of a Library/Language Arts Laboratory, Art/Photography Studio, two additional classrooms and two office spaces.
- We will be able to exercise controlled growth, growing and building while maintaining the small and intimate environment that is key to the growth and development of our boys.

For sure, these are exciting days at Seven Hills! We are grateful to you and to your family for the role you have played in building on the legacy of achievement over these nine years at Seven Hills. During these days where budget cuts, increase in class size, and loss in programming are common in education, we do not take lightly the role that your support plays in advancing the work of our boys and teachers. We are grateful.

We also know that you are our best promoters. To fill our second Bridge class, please spread the word about this expansion opportunity. Many people will assume that admissions are closed for 2010-2011 or will have heard news that Bridge is filled for next year. **While it is true that the first class of 12 is filled to capacity, this new opportunity provides us with a second admissions cycle dedicated to the second class of 12. This second cycle begins this week, and applications will be received through mid-May. Please refer prospective families to David Dorsey, Head of School or to Chip Hardy, Administrative and Admissions Assistant. You can also direct them to the updated website at [www.7hillsschool.org](http://www.7hillsschool.org). All admissions related materials are posted online, including a full application.**

Thank you for your continued support. We have often named Seven Hills School a place of no small miracles. It seems more fitting, truer by the day, and we are grateful.

*We look forward to seeing you next Thursday at our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Founders Celebration (6:30PM on campus)!*

Sincerely,

David F.H. Dorsey  
*Head of School*

Cristy O'Keefe  
*President, Board of Directors*

**SEVEN HILLS SCHOOL**  
*A middle school for boys*

1311 Overbrook Road  
Richmond, VA 23220  
[www.7hillsschool.org](http://www.7hillsschool.org)

*Founded 2001*

ph (804) 329-6300  
fx (804) 329-2408