Introducing our new Headmaster

BEN REIN
Dear Students, Faculty, Parents, & Alumni,

As my family and I look forward with great anticipation and excitement to joining the University School community this summer, I find myself both awed and humbled by the opportunity. As the product of an all-boys high school and the father of two boys, I am struck by the school’s enduring leadership in the field of boys’ education, the unfailing commitment to know and love each boy, and the inspired foundational principles of Responsibility, Loyalty, Consideration.

As an educator, a teacher, and an administrative leader in schools, I am energized by the depth of thought evidenced in a rigorous academic curriculum and educational program in all facets that is tailored for the needs of boys. I recognize an institution that is forward thinking yet enduring in its pedagogical framework, and a community of learning based on the essential foundation of strong student-teacher relationships. Although my visits to campus were brief during the search process, as I walked the halls, there was a warmth, energy, and palpable sense of kindness, camaraderie, excellence, and care that is the hallmark of a great school.

As US nears its 125th anniversary and welcomes a new Headmaster, there will be time to celebrate all that has come before while looking ahead to the future. There is still much for me to learn as I delve into the intricacies of the institution. I look forward to conversations with you in the months to come as you share with me your thoughts, hopes, and vision for the school you have nurtured, grown, and loved. I could not be more appreciative and grateful to the members of the search committee and the Board of Trustees who have asked me to serve in the role as the 8th Headmaster, and I cannot wait for our work together to begin.

On behalf of my wife, Claudia, and my two boys, Jackson and Max, I extend a warm thank you for the invitation to join you at US. In an institution where much has been accomplished and much is left to explore, I am excited to begin to play a role in the history of this remarkable school and community.

Sincerely,

Benjamin I. Rein
WHAT EXCITES YOU & CLAUDIA ABOUT JOINING THE US COMMUNITY?

What has really resonated with Claudia and excited her most is the same thing that connected me during the search process. The people here are so warm, and they are so excited about the school. As a parent, whenever you move your family, you want to go to a place where people are happy, where they are passionate, and where they are excited about where they live, and where they go to school. Broader than US, it's Cleveland and the way people love this city. The opportunities here, the culture here, the sports, and, as they jokingly say, the hardness around the weather and connection it breeds in the community is really compelling. So it seems like a very easy place to come live and raise a family.

WHAT ENERGIZES YOU ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEADMASTER AT US?

There are a lot of things about US that are inspiring and energizing: the quality of the institution, the history, and certainly a sense of overwhelming awe and excitement to have the title "8th headmaster of US" tied to your name. It is amazing, humbling, and a little bit intimidating when you think about an institution with 124 years of history, 124 years of excellence, and 124 years of outreach, and know that you are going to have the privilege of carrying that message forward, and helping students become that next generation of leaders. Why US? The easiest answer is that it's a great school. It's a school I knew of, it's a school I've heard about, and it's a school you read about. It's a school that has done great things, both on an educational leadership level and on the individual level with families and boys. To have an opportunity to play a small role in that, to be a piece of that larger community, and to get to continue the fine work that has been done, so that people in the next generation can look back and say, "He really did a good job for US. He helped US grow, and stay abreast of all that was right in the world and education." That's what you hope for when you do this.

ANY PARTING THOUGHTS?

I would like to share a hearty thank you of appreciation. I'm enthusiastic to come to US, and I am excited to take on this responsibility, and get a chance to become a part of this amazing community. It is going to be a wonderful journey. I have an opportunity to shape the school, as much as it is going to shape me, my family, and most importantly my boys, for years to come. I am grateful, humbled, appreciative, and ready to get started. Claudia, Jackson, Max and I look forward to arriving this summer.