



March 25, 2023

Dear [Salutation]

Time flies when one is having fun, and believe me, as we approach the final quarter of this school year, we are having fun! God has blessed us in many ways, and **the Academy is on the move!** The spirit among the students, faculty, staff, and parents is great.

Enrollment prospects are bright! Our Admissions Team recently completed a long-overdue (resulting from the pandemic) international recruitment tour connecting with parents, students, and student-placement agents with **immediate results!**

One of the unique strengths of the Academy's international program is its diversity. We have **students joining us from around the world** (e.g., Afghanistan, Brazil, China, Haiti, Vietnam), **currently representing 15 countries!** As our incoming Head of School, Dr. Travis, has said, *"International missions ministry is coming to Houghton every day!"*

Many of these students have harrowing personal stories. Yet, Houghton Academy not only meets their educational needs but is a haven that provides emotional and physical safety and mentoring as our faculty and staff minister to them the love of Jesus Christ.

And, despite the stereotype of international boarding students, **most Academy students (international and local) depend on financial assistance**, only able to benefit from and experience the joy of Christian education through the financial donations of Academy friends like you who know the critical value of our ministry.

Our local student enrollment is growing, partly due to our relationship with **Houghton University**. The Academy and the University continue taking steps to increase the impact on the students we serve in ways that authentically provide additional value to both ministries. **We are so grateful for our shared heritage and partnership for the future.**

The anticipation of Dr. Toby Travis joining us in three months as the Academy's new Head of School is growing. If you have not yet read the article on our website introducing Dr. Travis to our community, please take a moment to do so at www.HoughtonAcademy.org.





One of the critical ways in which Dr. Travis is already serving the Academy is by recruiting additional faculty and staff members for the 2023-2024 school year. As you may know, education is experiencing one of the most significant employment crises in history. Thus, it is challenging to identify what we refer to as *Living Curriculum Educators* who are not only qualified in their areas of expertise but also mature followers of Jesus Christ who possess a passion for youth ministry. Yet, **we have already connected with several exceptional candidates** and are excited to see the team God is organizing to support this next exciting phase of the Academy's journey!

Please view the openings listed on the *Careers* page of our website and share the information with any you know who may resonate with being used by God to meet the needs of our growing ministry.

The Academy is in a season of rebuilding. We are confident that with Dr. Travis's leadership and the support of the faculty and staff whom God has called that **we are entering a new era in the school's 140-year history of student ministry**. However, we are not able to do this alone. **We require faithful financial partners** who believe in and share in our mission to offer young people a college preparatory education within the framework of a distinctively Christian worldview.



We are encouraged by the momentum we are experiencing; however, **we lack sufficient funding to meet many of the current needs** of the Academy, including:

- Facility repairs and upgrades, including urgent needs (e.g., roofing)
- Curriculum updates and classroom resources
- Technology (both infrastructure and instructional)
- Requested tuition financial aid

Please prayerfully consider donating today to the **Houghton Academy Annual Fund** (see attached). We have set a goal for \$225,000 in donations to the fund for 2022-2023, of which we have already received slightly over \$138,000! Praising God! **Help us close the gap of \$87,000 today!** Thank you for your investment and partnership in ministry. The Academy is on the move!

Philip G. Stockin
Interim Head of School

