



REAL BOYS







Welcome! ••••

The Church Farm School story? We tell it every day. Founded on the dream of creating a school dedicated to rigorous work, reallife learning, compassion and helping boys grow into strong, good men, Church Farm School is a community of dedicated learners. Every day presents new opportunities to shape and fulfill our students' dreams. And we do it well.

It begins with the joy and wonder that fuel our imaginations, the purpose and industry by which we apply ourselves to the noble task of learning and living together. Teachers, advisors, coaches, mentors and every adult supporting the academic, athletic and residential life of the school are dedicated to the growth of every boy in body, mind and spirit. The four core values you'll see described and discussed in this Viewbook—Brotherhood, Respect, Integrity and Responsibility are explored every day by our students, faculty and community. They become pillars for living that students can depend upon for the rest of their lives.

Our students are some of the best and the brightest. They learn from their teachers and they learn from each other. Church Farm School is a microcosm of the world, with unparalleled diversity—economic, cultural, ethnic and racial. This prepares our graduates to live and work in a world that isn't much different from life here. Each boy brings his own story and works to prepare himself for even greater adventure long after graduation. That work is what really shapes us and makes this such an exciting place to be. Students, gathered from all over the world, quickly develop and lean into the brotherhood that supports and sustains our collective work.

This Viewbook tells a part of our story. We invite you to campus for a tour and a chance to see for yourself the true dynamic that is our life together here.

With best wishes,

The Reverend Edmund K. "Ned" Sherrill II
Head of School

REAL OPPORTUNITY

Our Mission:

CHURCH FARM SCHOOL
PREPARES A DIVERSE GROUP
OF BOYS WITH ACADEMIC
ABILITY AND GOOD CHARACTER
TO LEAD PRODUCTIVE
AND FULFILLING LIVES BY
MAKING A COLLEGE
PREPARATORY EDUCATION
FINANCIALLY ACCESSIBLE.

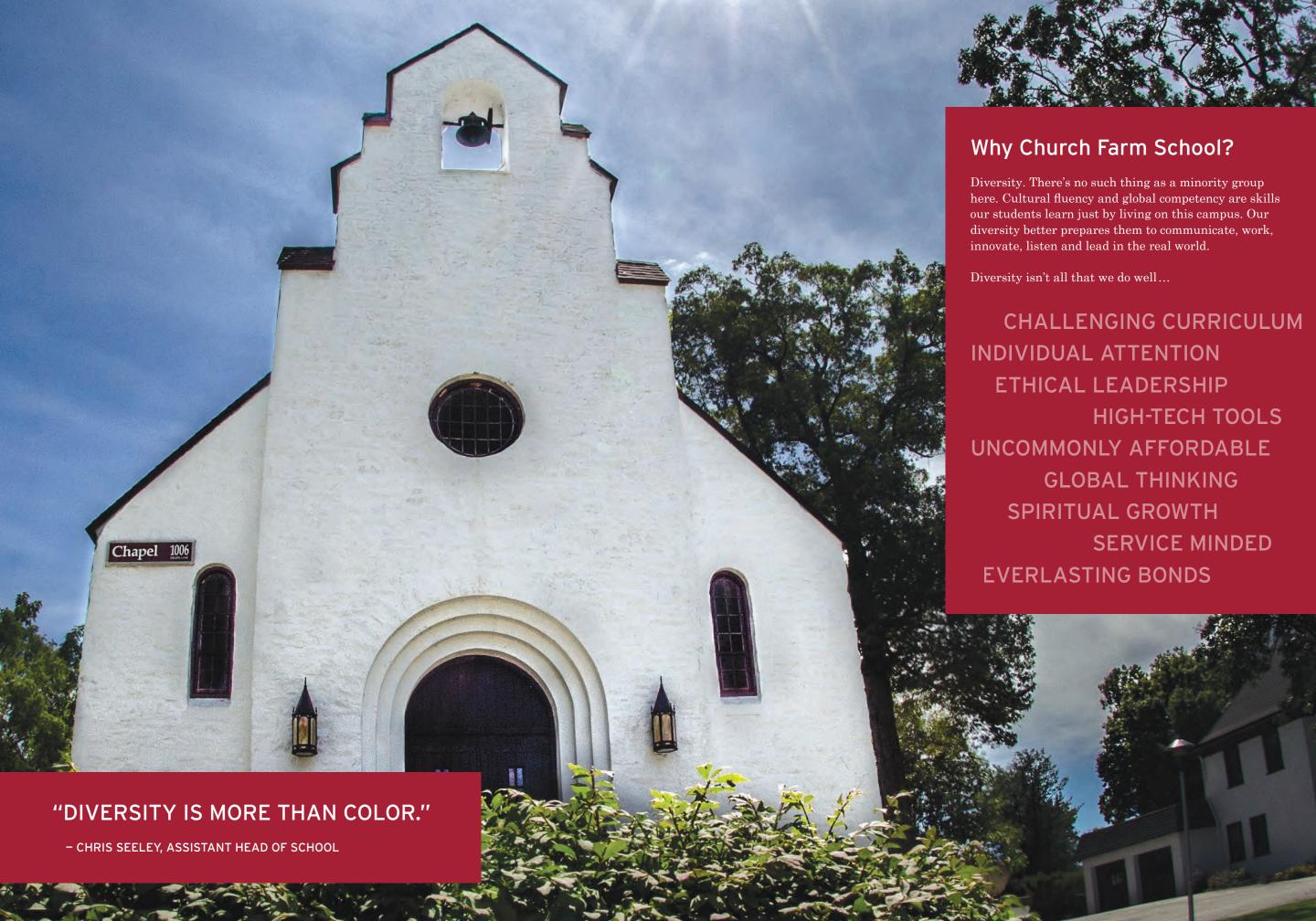
Financial Aid

Financing an independent school education is an investment in your child's future, and we are committed to making Church Farm School affordable for every family. Thanks to a strong endowment and a loyal group of generous donors, we provide a first-rate education at an uncommonly affordable price.

Aid allocated in 2014–15: \$4.3M+ Receiving Need-based Aid: 90 percent Boarding Tuition: \$32,000 Day Tuition: \$18,100

"IT HAD EVER BEEN MY DREAM TO ESTABLISH A
SCHOOL THAT WOULD TAKE CARE OF BOYS OF
ABILITY AND PROMISE WHO OTHERWISE MIGHT HAVE
NO OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN SUCH AN EDUCATION."

- THE REV. DR. CHARLES W. SHREINER, FOUNDER









BROTHERHOOD

Prepare to Live in the Real World.

Preparation for the real world begins with an acceptance of who you are and where you came from. We don't want you to come here wearing a mask. We want you to use your experience—it is what makes you unique and important. At Church Farm School, our students look deep within themselves to find the things they are good at. The things they enjoy. The things they are passionate about. They allow their dreams to take shape.



Brotherhood is one of our four core values. As any of our students will tell you, brotherhood means "we've got your back." Brotherhood means vigilance and caring. There is no slipping through the cracks. We are all caretakers for each other.

"I am from Zaria, in northern Nigeria.

My family are Tiv people. My parents understand the importance of education. I draw strength from where I came from. Education is the key to success. I want to help, to give back. I remember something my mother told me: I should love my brothers."

— Aondofa Anyam '14

"WORD GETS OUT. WE RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER'S EFFORTS.

IF YOU DO SOMETHING GOOD,

EVERYONE WILL KNOW.

IT'S A TIGHT COMMUNITY."

- CHRIS LOWRY '14



BROTHERHOOD MEANS I'VE GOT YOUR BACK.

The teachers here are high energy and the classes are hard! You can tell these teachers really want to teach. But it also goes beyond the classroom. They teach us about core values, about judgment. This was important for me, because back at home I got in with the wrong group of kids. Now when I go home, I don't talk to them anymore. They just aren't that interesting.

There are people from everywhere here. No two are alike! You learn how to cope with differences. You learn how to communicate. Again, not just in class. I play tennis and run cross-country. I'm the representative to

student government for the senior class and I'm in the Multicultural Club.

The best thing about Church Farm School is brotherhood. Brotherhood means I've got your back. It means

honesty, integrity and respect. It means we encourage and help each other to do the right thing. We have a lot of fun.









RESPECT

Prepare to Collaborate in the Real World.

Success in the global knowledge economy demands collaboration. Collaboration means working with people with very different points of view, from very different backgrounds and disciplines. This requires curiosity, respect and empathy.

Church Farm School students are not competing in the traditional sense of the word—socially, academically and athletically. Instead, they are learning how to respect and help each other. This is the best preparation we can give them for the real world.

"It's important to me that my students get out into the world, that they see and experience the world, that they have the courage and confidence to experience other cultures and landscapes. I tell my students that I expect to get postcards from around the world after they graduate."

— Dave Stout, English

"WHEN I TAUGHT MY STUDENTS ABOUT THE
VIETNAM WAR, I TOLD THEM, 'I'M GOING TO GIVE
YOU THE AMERICAN VIEW.' ONE OF MY STUDENTS,
A VALEDICTORIAN FROM NORTH VIETNAM,
GAVE THE CLASS HIS POINT OF VIEW. FROM THE
OUTSIDE, IT WAS A WAR AGAINST COMMUNISM.
FROM THE INSIDE, IT WAS A WAR FOR
INDEPENDENCE. THE STUDENTS IN THAT CLASS
GOT BOTH POINTS OF VIEW."

- ERIC FULMER, HISTORY





IF I COULD TAKE ALL OF
MY GOALS, ALL OF THE THINGS
I CARE ABOUT MOST... AND
LOCATE THEM IN ONE PLACE,
IT WOULD BE RIGHT HERE.

When I first came to Church Farm School, I realized at once the uniqueness of its mission and the sheer diversity of the school. If I could take all of my goals, all of the things I care about most—equity, justice, support and the pursuit of excellence, and locate them in one place, it would be right here.

We have a specific set of objectives and a different way of assessing our students. We're interested in how they grow and develop as human beings. This education

is not one size fits all. You might see a student who has strong critical thinking skills but is not all that strong when it comes to empathizing with others.

The 21st-century skill set requires both attributes. Students must be able to transform themselves and their surroundings. We are helping them to develop as leaders in a world that is changing so fast we can barely keep up with it.

I teach Ethical Literacy, which is not just the ability to tell right from wrong. Often, it's the ability to tell right from right! In such

a diverse community, there are many definitions of right. Some people are naturally more collaborative. Others are more independent.

These cultural differences form the foundation of the global context our students live in. Our students practice what they learn—in their relationships here at Church Farm School, in the projects they design and work on, in their relationship with this environment and in their own personal health. Every day.











RESPONSIBILITY

Prepare to Lead in the Real World.

At Church Farm School, we give our students the confidence and the agency to become great leaders. We believe that taking responsibility for your own actions and also taking responsibility for the lives, safety and success of those around youare essential aspects of leadership. Leadership means genuine concern for others.

"I am a cottage prefect. It is my job to make sure people stay on task. Students can ask me, a peer, for advice—whether it's about applying to college or feeling homesick. There are many opportunities for leadership at the school—the Conduct Review Board, Student Congress, in classrooms and in athletics. We are now working on an Honor Code that we can really integrate into our

lives here. The point is not to punish people. The point is, how can we learn and grow from our mistakes? How can we be better men?"

— Chris Lowry '14

"Our students learn the importance of leading by example. It is a well-rounded form of leadership, the kind that evolves in a home, not an institution. This is a small pond, but a microcosm of a big world. If you are helpful and kind and engaged, it's possible to become a very big fish. I love watching my students grow into who they are."

— Stephanie Heerschap, Foreign Languages, Residential Life

"THIS IS GROUND ZERO FOR THE FUTURE."

- RANDY NOLL, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LIFE

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Teaching pottery is similar to coaching a sport. I deal a lot with students' mental states. Many people are afraid to make things because they are

afraid of failure. Until they are more comfortable with themselves, and until they feel secure and safe from judgment, it's hard to get them to express themselves in clay or any other medium.

So there is a process of early growth, even before students learn the skills they need to make pots. This is where the grit comes in. They have to be willing to keep trying, even if they fail.

I try to help them find a way through—to see it as an adventure.

I feel a deep personal commitment to these kids. I'm one of five children of a single mom. She had a scholarship to art school but she got married instead and had us. My father was nice enough, a kind, people

person. A carpenter. But he left. So I can relate to these kids. Church Farm School is my extended family.

I go to the students' games; often their parents are unable to come. I try to help them keep growing. When they graduate, they leave this support system. But they begin the transition to adulthood here.



The Arts

At Church Farm School, we help students develop an awareness and appreciation for all modes of artistic expression. We want them to understand the history of various art forms, the cultural roots, the technical skills involved and what it means to be



a professional in that field. We encourage them to set high goals for technical, artistic and personal accomplishment and help them exhibit their work on and off campus.

Skills in studio arts include drawing, printmaking, calligraphy, weaving, ceramics and other media. Work in these areas involves respect for others and for materials, confidence, responsibility and respect in the studio environment.

We understand the importance of expression for personal growth. We see the arts as an integral part of the curriculum.

Music

The goal of the Music Program is to provide a comprehensive, outcome-based music curriculum that exposes students to a variety of styles and aspects of music and to

develop and nurture an aesthetic awareness of music. We believe it is important that every student has the opportunity to experience some form of musical expression—singing, playing an instrument, composing and arranging music with specific guidelines, reading and notating music, listening to and analyzing music, evaluating performances, understanding music in relation to history and culture, and making

connections with other arts and disciplines.

"Camaraderie here is deep. On one of our annual choir trips—this time to South Africa—we visited an orphanage. Each student left a suitcase behind for the kids. Most of the boys were very sad to leave the orphanage. I heard them saying things like 'I have been so selfish' and 'I'm going to change my direction.' They really took it in." — Gary Gress, Choral Director







Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 6 to 1

Total Enrollment: 190

Boarding: 172 (90 percent)

Average Class Size: Students

Community Service

Hard work and community service have always been foundations of the Church Farm School experience. Getting out there and doing good work for others is a practice our graduates continue throughout their lives. Community service is a pre-requisite for graduation, and our boys have participated in projects at animal shelters, schools, churches, food banks, community gardens and more. Since 2010, Church Farm School has partnered with our local township for "Make A Difference Day," where our students and dozens of other community members come together to spruce up the township park on former Church Farm School grounds.



Church Farm School is

30% African American

30% Caucasian

15%

International

20% Latino

5%

Multiracial

Our students come from different countries.



Academics • • • • • • •

Curiosity and creativity are the heart and soul of our challenging curriculum. We seek to create well-rounded young men, so there are ample opportunities to explore interests and uncover talents. It is not uncommon for the captain of the lacrosse team to also head up Yearbook, play in the jazz band and act in one of our most esteemed traditions, the Christmas Pageant.



Learning by Doing

We believe that hands-on is the best way to learn and are constantly innovating ways to engage our students, whether using a "flipped classroom" model or designing and planting a butterfly garden studied during science class. Our students work on unique, problem-solving projects that teach them how to look at complex problems, navigate information and apply skills.

AP and Beyond

Church Farm School academics aim to inspire intellectual discovery through deep critical and analytical thinking—with an eye toward our four core values. We offer a variety of AP courses that are complemented by other topics that will prepare students for the future—robotics, information technology, website design and more.

Full STEAM Ahead

At a time when many other schools are streamlining and enhancing their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curricula, Church Farm School has received a major challenge grant from the Edward E. Ford Foundation to take this to a new level. The grant will support the design of the STEAM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, Arts,
Mathematics) curriculum and will provide
robust opportunities to engage students in
authentic problem solving and ethical
literacy. The curriculum will feature projects
designed to help students think through
complex 21st century issues and, when
possible, engage students with the local
community.

Clubs, Organizations and Activities

Students have many options for extracurricular activities; there are more than 25 clubs, focused on everything from astronomy to drama and jazz. Weekends are also jam-packed with fun things to do, from dances to performances and trips off campus.





When you first come to Church Farm School, you can't believe how fantastically diverse it is! I'm from Bologna, Italy, and I've never seen anything like it in the U.S. I think it is important for anyone, but also for a successful career, to have a worldly character—to be comfortable in a diverse society.

Because the school is small, it is possible to have personal relationships with your teachers. We talk a lot about our core values at Church Farm School: Brotherhood, Integrity, Responsibility and Respect. These were chosen by the students, and we take them seriously! We see how important they are in everyday life.

We face real-life challenges here and we learn how to solve problems. We learn about how to conduct ourselves when we are not on school grounds, how to represent our school. Here's an example: On a train coming back to school, there was a man fast asleep in the seat next to me. Forty dollars fell out of his pocket. I picked it up and put it back in his pocket. That's a simple one. They aren't always so simple!

LOOK AROUND-EVERYONE IS ALMOST ALWAYS SMILING.



If we know that one of our peers has to make an important decision and we see him leaning in an unethical direction, we talk with him. The students are now in the process of developing an Honor Code, which is a very interesting process. Everyone has a different perspective, particularly when it comes to consequences. We try to imagine the entire context of certain actions, which helps us to come up with appropriate responses and policies.

We have a fantastic time. I think because Church Farm School is not coed, we really develop strong bonds, strong loyalties. Look around—everyone is almost always smiling.









....INTEGRITY....

Prepare to Create Change in the Real World.

Gaining integrity often involves struggle. At Church Farm School, our students ask themselves, "How can we be better men?" This means everything from learning how to manage time to setting priorities and dealing with conflict fairly—until at some point, as Church Farm School student Maduakolam Onyewu says, "It just becomes a part of who you are."

"My mother and father are from Korea.
At first I didn't want to come to boarding school. But now, it feels like a family.
We support and help each other. We compromise. We find solutions. We break down barriers. The context is friendship—giving, sharing, contributing. The context is integrity."

— Edward Kim '16

"Consequences and rewards don't teach us how to learn from our mistakes. Real change happens somewhere in the middle. And change is the goal."

— Randy Noll, Director of Student Life

- "We give our students a sense of power over their experience, what I call agency, ownership. We help them learn to be the parent and the child. How do we do this? By caring. A genuine concern for each other. A sense of responsibility for ourselves and for those around us."
- Chris Seeley, Assistant Head of School



"HONESTY AND INTEGRITY ARE WOVEN INTO YOUR CHARACTER. INTEGRITY JUST BECOMES A PART OF WHO YOU ARE."

- MADUAKOLAM ONYEWU '17



Church Farm School is a family-oriented place. These boys are looking to succeed and they need people to support them. We are also here to push them beyond what they think they can do. They are very motivated kids. There's a strong work ethic and a spirit of healthy competition. The best students lead by example, are involved in a wide variety of activities and are able to engage with faculty and students.

How we relate to each other is extremely important here. We talk about it a lot. The four core values infuse daily life. If there is a conflict, we talk about how it happened, why it escalated, when the relationship changed and how to step out of the dynamic and create a new framework for the relationship. As a cottage parent, I am actively involved in this process.

In ninth grade, values and ethics are big concepts. After a few years, students are very, very familiar, with using these values in everyday life—from class discussions to athletic competition. The four core values act as touchstones to help students see where they stand and to propel them to be better people and better members of the community.

I love watching these boys grow into who they are. By the time they graduate from Church Farm School, their confidence has grown enormously, but so has their humility.



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I'm from Anchorage, Alaska, and, no, I don't live in an igloo! I've gone to public schools all my life, so Church Farm School was a complete change. At first, it was a rude awakening for me academically. I guess I wasn't really challenged much at my old school. Then there was the landscape—and the crowds!

I've always had these big dreams; usually they require big sacrifices. The biggest challenges were being away from home and the workload. I learned a lot my first year about managing my time.

I've also learned a lot about teamwork. That first year our basketball team was made up of people from Maryland, New York, Georgia, Alaska and more. At first there was very little chemistry; we didn't really understand each other. Then it started to click. Now we know each other's strengths and weaknesses. Everything good takes time.

It's the same in the classroom. You don't know anyone; you start to build bonds with classmates and teachers until you feel comfortable. I've changed a lot here. At public school, it was all about me. Now I see things from many perspectives.

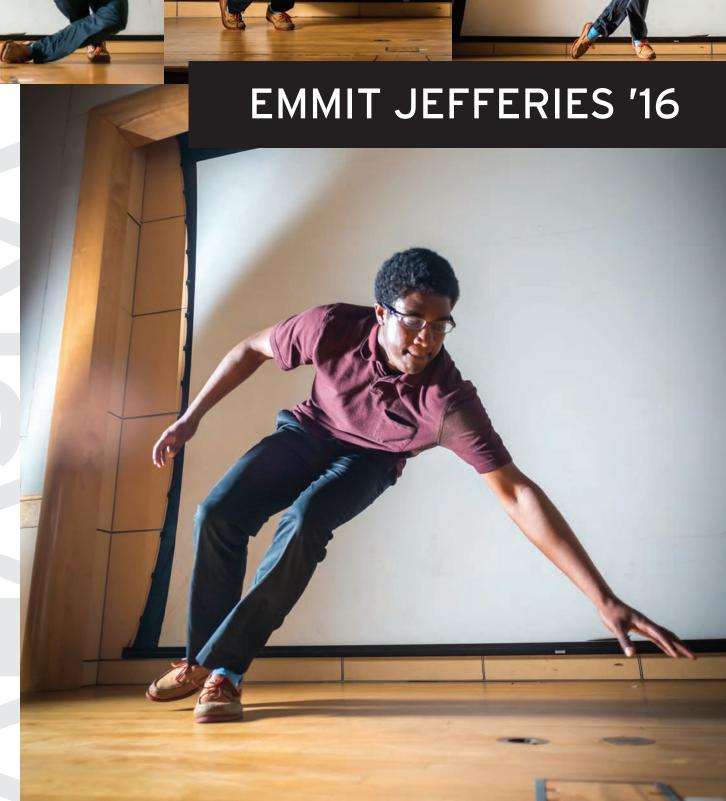
This is a great place to try new things. I love to dance—anything—tap dance, breakdance—anything that involves music and rhythm. Every now and then I'll just go down to the empty stage in the auditorium and dance.

I'VE CHANGED A LOT HERE.

AT PUBLIC SCHOOL, IT WAS ALL ABOUT ME.

NOW I SEE THINGS FROM MANY

PERSPECTIVES.



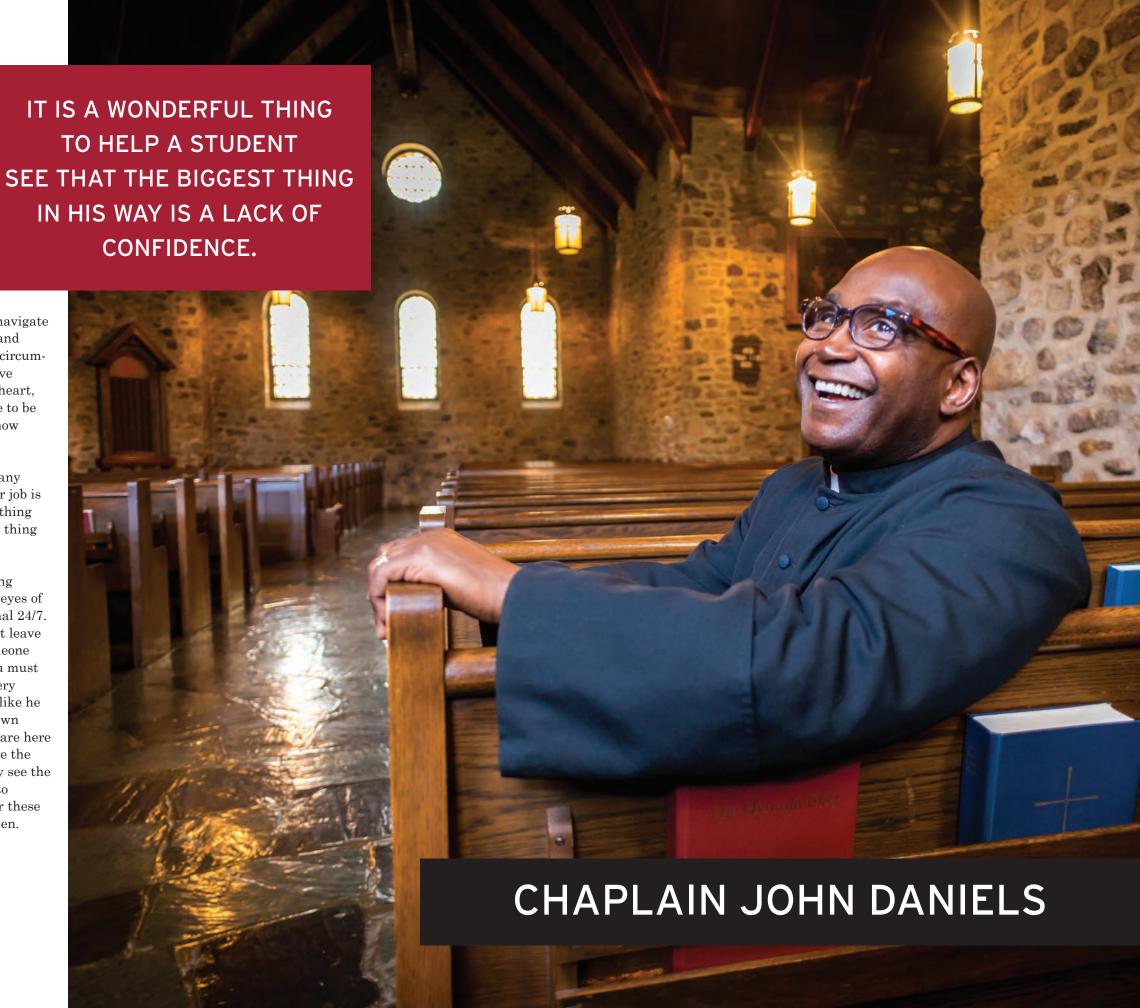
My life goal is to transform the lives of our youth based on my experience as a chaplain. We are all the products of our environments. We don't get to select our families or our circumstances when we are born. We have to overcome and thrive.

When you give students the tools to navigate conflict, they develop the confidence and wherewithal to persevere in difficult circumstances. They have to trust and believe that you have their best interests at heart, that you care. Consistently. You have to be candid with students. They like to know what to expect.

The students here are truly great. Many don't realize their own greatness. Our job is to help them see it. It is a wonderful thing to help a student see that the biggest thing in his way is a lack of confidence.

We are constantly engaged, addressing every need. We notice them with the eyes of adults. We want them to be intentional 24/7.

You can't leave it to someone else. You must treat every student like he is your own son. We are here to change the way they see the world—to empower these young men.





STEPHEN ZARYCRANSKI '16



My mom worked down the road from the school. I took a tour, shadowed a student and really liked the atmosphere, especially the smaller classes. At my public school, we had 30 students in a class; here we get much more attention from our teachers. We also get our work done faster because there are fewer distractions. And it helps to be surrounded by good, serious students. From the beginning, they seemed more mature to me than the kids at my old school.

I get here at 7:45 a.m. and when school ends at 3:30 p.m., I do sports until 6:30 p.m. It's a long day, but I always want to stay until the very last minute.

I really like the diversity here. It makes it easier to understand what we learn in class about world religions and other cultures. You read a book like *Catcher in the Rye* and hear so many different opinions about it, because everyone comes from different backgrounds.

BY GOOD, SERIOUS

STUDENTS.

The teachers here are energetic and organized—high spirited. They pay attention to how we are doing, how we are feeling. We are not discouraged from trying new things. It really seems as though they are setting us up to have successful lives. To be happy.

REAL RESULTS

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

EMORY UNIVERSITY

RICE UNIVERSITY

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Next Steps: College Choices

We help students make good decisions about their plans after Church Farm School. This includes choosing the right courses, completing standardized testing, finding the best colleges to match each student's hopes and dreams and navigating financial aid applications. This process is a priority for our college counselors, guidance counselors, student advisors, classroom teachers and cottage faculty members, who are all available not only for our students, but also for family members.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BOSTON COLLEGE

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Teams At-A-Glance

SOCCER GOLF
TENNIS CROSS-COUNTRY
TRACK AND FIELD
BASEBALL LACROSSE
BASKETBALL
WRESTLING

"Athletics at Church Farm School are about imparting life lessons. It's 100 percent about finding the right coaches and helping to foster real teamwork. My absolute favorite thing is that every kid gets to play."

— Greg Thompson, Director of Athletics

Athletics

Athletics are an integral part of the Church Farm School curriculum, with benefits that are both immediate and enduring. Our outstanding coaching staff, consisting primarily of academic and residential faculty, serve as teachers and mentors for our boys, working closely with our student-athletes to pursue excellence while developing leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork and an appreciation for lifelong fitness.

Since athletic participation is a required part of the Church Farm School experience, we provide a diverse selection of competitive, developmental and recreational options. Whether a student is a varsity-level athlete or a beginner, we offer programs that are both challenging and rewarding. The school fields multiple levels of competitive teams in soccer, golf, cross-country, wrestling, basketball, winter track, baseball, tennis, lacrosse and track and field, as well as noncompetitive options, such as intramural sports and strength and conditioning.

We have four soccer fields, six tennis courts, a running track, a basketball gym and a multipurpose field house used for wrestling, basketball and much more.

We are extremely proud of our championship-caliber teams who have accomplished so much in such a short time—five Bicentennial Athletic League championships in the past two years and six district championships since joining PIAA in 2009. Even more impressive is that our boys have achieved this athletic success on top of a very rigorous academic workload and with the highest level of sportsmanship



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I FEEL THAT, AFTER CHURCH FARM SCHOOL, I'LL HAVE A LOT OF CHOICES, A LOT OF OPTIONS.

At Church Farm School, we start by learning some of the things we have to work on. My biggest challenge is time management. I run cross-country, which means I'm on the track at 6:00 a.m. I'm a pretty good student—that part comes easily—but I have to work on paying attention, being focused.

The cottage parents are our substitute parents. If we don't do our chores, for example, we have to answer to them. But my coach is my dad on campus. I get to practice

on time in part because I don't want to let him down. The teachers really care about you; they pay attention to how you are doing and feeling. So there's independence, but also supervision.

This is a community. We measure ourselves against each other, but competition means something different here. It means helping each other to win. There's no bullying at Church Farm School. But you have to learn how to spend time with the people who care

about you. Sounds simple, but it isn't always. Brotherhood means not doing anything to hurt each other.

I think about the future—running in college, maybe going to law school. There's a lot of guidance here when it comes to finding your talents and skills—what makes you happy, what you are good at, what you care about—and imagining a future. I might, for example, go into sports law. I feel that, after Church Farm School, I'll have a lot of choices, a lot of options.



DUMONDE "SLAM" DUNKLEY '16

GET REAL.

"WE THINK A LOT ABOUT SUCCESS-WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO US BEYOND GPAs, MONEY AND STATUS, I THINK IT HAS TO DO WITH FINDING YOUR OWN GREATNESS. AT CHURCH FARM SCHOOL, WE ARE PEER-PRESSURED FOR SUCCESS!"



Visit!

To get a taste for what it's like to be a Church Farm School student, you will want to arrange a visit to campus. From meals and classes to athletics and social activities, a visit allows you to fully immerse yourself in campus life.

Your admission visit will begin in the lobby of our admission office, where you will be taken on a tour of Church Farm School. Following your tour, you will meet with an admission officer for your interview. To schedule a visit, call the admission office at (610) 363-5347.



Contact

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