



From the Headmaster

Every day we read of the drastic measures being considered by the Orange and Seminole County school districts to balance the budgets for 2009-2010. Some of the steps being considered include the elimination or reduction of fine arts programs and interscholastic athletic programs, substantial increases in class size, the elimination of electives and counseling services, modification of schedules, and closing schools. It is tragic that the national and international economic downturn is forcing the public schools to make these difficult choices.

Furthermore, many independent schools are also facing cutbacks and shortfalls that may impact the programs and services available for the students in the years to come. I am grateful that our families have responded favorably to the re-enrollment process. We currently have full enrollment for 2009-2010, with a waiting list in grades 6 to 11. We deeply appreciate the confidence that you continue to place in Trinity Prep and the sacrifices that so many are making to support the students in their education.

We have received a record number of applicants who are seeking financial assistance for 2009-2010. Our priority in the allocation of these limited resources is to assist those families who currently have students enrolled in the school. It is our hope to meet the needs of many new families as well. A portion of Annual Fund contributions will go towards financial assistance for families who have been impacted by the economic downturn.

One of the many benefits of a Trinity Prep education is the outstanding college counseling program which is staffed by three full-time counselors. Our early college acceptance list for the Class of 2009 has been extremely positive, with many students being offered substantial scholarships, grants-in-aid, and financial assistance. Many students also have qualified for Bright Futures scholarships to be applied to Florida public and private institutions. We were thrilled to receive word that 81% of the students who applied to the University of Florida this year have been accepted. A Trinity Prep education continues to be an outstanding investment, even in a faltering economy.

As I reported in my re-enrollment letter in January, our 2009-2010 budget will support all current programs and services and does not require further cuts that might negatively impact the educational experience next year. Like nearly all other educational institutions, the global economic crisis has deeply impacted our school's endowment. Fortunately, however, a conservative spending policy will minimize the immediate impact of those reduced resources on next year's budget. Even with the threat of a deepening recession, I remain optimistic regarding our school's ability to sustain the educational excellence that you have come to expect.