

September 24, 2009

Dear Trustees, Members of the Administration, and  
Esteemed Faculty of Buckingham Browne & Nichols School:

It is a great privilege and pleasure to honor Buckingham Browne & Nichols faculty with the creation of the Founding Paideia Master Teacher Chair. The spirit and intention of our family's gift is to begin a tradition of celebrating all faculty while also recognizing distinguished members in our remarkable teaching community who demonstrate the highest degree of excellence as master teachers, mentors, and leaders.

The Founding Paideia Master Teacher Chair takes its name from the ancient Greek noun *paideia* meaning "education" or "training," and comes from the verb *paideuo* which means "to teach." *Paideia* was the process of educating humans into their true form, the real and genuine human nature. Since self-government was important to the Greeks, *paideia*, combined with *ethos* (habits), made a man good and made him capable as a citizen or a king. This education was not about learning a trade or an art but was about training for liberty (freedom) and nobility (the beautiful). *Paideia* is the cultural heritage that is continued through the generations.

Quite a number of faculty have touched the heart, mind, and soul of our child over 12 years—from the kind lap of a Lower School teacher reading a fairy tale, to a rigorous debate about *Catcher in the Rye* in an English classroom at the Upper School Campus. I literally gasp in excitement as I contemplate the magnitude of knowledge, good will, and strong values represented by the thousands of BB&N students and alumni/ae who have been brilliantly educated by our dedicated faculty. They are that cultural heritage that is *Paideia*.

The most valuable assets of BB&N are our teachers. They deserve our highest respect and appreciation. It is truly a joy to join two other families in the inauguration of three endowed teaching positions.

Respectfully,

Anonymous