

# THE Webb SCHOOLS

## A LETTER TO THE WEBB COMMUNITY

March 17, 2022

Dear Webb Community,

Thompson Webb opened Webb School in 1922 to provide boys with an education focused on honor, moral courage, and leadership. His boys' school stood alone and thrived for nearly 60 years. In 1981, the Webb community came together to found the Vivian Webb School, creating a unique coordinate structure of two schools on one campus and a place for girls to come together and develop in their own right. It has also been a great success. These successes coupled with the founding of the Alf Museum and its accreditation in 1998 have led to our national reputation as a center for educational innovation. We write to you today as we consider the next stage in Webb's evolution.

Over the last four decades, Webb School of California and the Vivian Webb School have grown closer and stronger, building a legacy of shared experiences and traditions. This has been a natural evolution spurred in part by ongoing innovations in academics and co-curricular activities designed to spark unbounded thinking. The evolution has also been a natural result of numbers – in 2014, Webb enrolled an equal number of Vivian Webb and Webb School of California students. Indeed, our culture on campus has evolved to reflect a singular, co-curricular experience, with one set of rules and expectations for all students. As a result, over the last decade, we have largely operated as one school with a singular mission of unbounded thinking and honorable leadership.

Given this evolution, the Board of Trustees now believes the time has come for the formal two school structure to shift as well. As we look ahead to The Next 100, the Board has asked the Administrative Team to explore how we can come together officially as one school for the next century, preserving the very best of our traditions and opening up new and innovative program possibilities.

With this in mind we will begin a formal period of inquiry to gather feedback from students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff. Our outreach will begin with a series of webinars scheduled for Thursday, March 24. These webinars will be followed by a community survey and a series of formal and informal listening events during which the community can share its wisdom on our core school values and legacy programs, ceremonies, capstone events and more. We want to hear from everyone who would like to share.



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At the outset, we assume that any unification of our school structure would certainly occur over a period of time. Any transition would not begin until the 2023-2024 school year and happen in full over a period of years, so that our entire community could implement changes in a careful and thoughtful manner.

After years of experience and community observation, Webb's Board of Trustees and its senior leadership believe a one school model is what we need to be a global leader in education and deliver on our mission to students. We also know that with your input and feedback, we can make the best possible decisions for Webb's next century and beyond.

Sincerely,

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P.S. **Please register now for our webinar to be held on Thursday, March 24.** You will also have an opportunity to share your ideas and feedback through a community survey, which will be emailed to you on Tuesday, March 29.

Webinar Registration: [bit.ly/WebbWebinar](https://bit.ly/WebbWebinar)

