June 4, 2014

Dear Pine Crest School Community,

As we said farewell to the Class of 2014, we asked our newest alumni to identify the hallmarks of their Pine Crest experience. Their answers spoke volumes about our School. They described the academic rigor; the high expectations of themselves and others they developed here; the friendships and supportive relationships made here; their preparedness for college; and an appreciation for faculty who care deeply about their success. With overwhelming affection, our graduating seniors told us that Pine Crest School influenced their character, work ethic, and appreciation of learning, and they will be forever shaped by these lessons from “The Pine.”

I continue to be inspired by our faculty and students. Throughout the year, and in the past several weeks alone, they have earned accolades at the regional, state, and national levels. From a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts and a DuPont Challenge winner who attended the White House Science Fair, to five Cappies awards for “Bye Bye Birdie” and state champions in track, Pine Crest continues to make its mark.

While this has indeed been a year full of celebrations, it has also been a year of laying the foundation for the future. The spirit of collaboration and innovation across campuses, divisions, and departments is strong. Several initiatives have already launched as a result of the 2014-19 Strategic Plan, including the Academic Council for Curricular Review. Representatives from all five divisions have come together to begin communicating about the quality of our existing curriculum and vision for future curricular offerings. We have hired additional Upper School faculty for 2014-15 and reorganized College Counseling resources to assign counselors to students beginning in freshman year – all with a laser focus on the success of our students.

Finally, I thank you for generously sharing your time and resources with Pine Crest. We met, surpassed, and set a new giving record for The Pine Crest Fund, led by the faculty, administration, and trustees with their outstanding 100 percent participation. Our Fort Lauderdale and Boca Raton ‘80s-themed auction events, hosted by our parents’ associations, were a tremendous success. In fact, now is the time to mark your calendars for Saturday, March 14, 2015 – the date of our next Pine Crest School Auction Event! The Boca Raton and Fort
Lauderdale Auction Committees have met and are already working together, with the Development Office, to create a single epic event for both campuses.

We appreciate you being our partners in excellence. Your continued support fuels the faculty and programs that inspire our students to explore, discover, and excel, forming the Pine Crest experience for our students.

I wish you a happy, restful, and safe summer.

Sincerely,

Dana Markham, Ed.D.
President