Dear Members of the Choate Rosemary Hall Community,

We are writing to update you about Choate’s commitment to student safety in light of recent news reports about incidents of sexual misconduct at schools around the country. We just completed our regularly scheduled Spring meeting of the Board of Trustees, the centerpiece of which was student safety, and we want to share with you what we have been doing in this regard, including the addition of a new resource for our community.

In 2013, we set the direction for the School in our Strategic Plan, which has the student experience at its core. The Plan continues to guide our decisions and emphasizes our commitment to cultivating a safe and respectful campus culture based on our enduring values of integrity, respect, and composition. Building on this, in the January 2014 Bulletin - The Magazine of Choate Rosemary Hall, we wrote to the entire Choate community to introduce our Statement of Expectations, which outlines the behavior the School expects from every member of our community and reflects our values about how we treat each other.

In that edition of the Bulletin, we also established a protocol to support members of our community who wanted to share with the School inappropriate behaviors or boundary crossings that they had experienced and designated Associate Headmaster Kathleen Lyons Wallace as the point person for reports of this nature. The School has taken and will continue to take all reports seriously and, as you would hope and expect, follows up in a timely fashion, and supports those involved, affording them the utmost respect and privacy.

We also recognize you might wish to speak to someone independent of the School, so we have selected Hon. Richard J. Holwell of Holwell Shuster & Goldberg to be available to talk with you regarding your experiences. Ms. Wallace can be contacted at kiw@choate.edu and Mr. Holwell at (646) 837-5152 or choaterosemaryhall@hsglp.com. We encourage you to reach out if you have information to share.

In addition to supporting our alumni, we are ever committed to the safety and wellbeing of our students. Because prevention is such an important part of these efforts, we will share in the upcoming Bulletin more information about our programming on campus, including details of the ways in which we engage our students in conversations about personal relationships, respect for self and others, and appropriate boundaries with both peers and adults. Similarly, our ongoing professional development program for adults on campus includes training on child protection alongside regular conversations about healthy adolescent development.

We remain grateful for the generations of parents and students who place their trust in Choate Rosemary Hall and reaffirm our commitment to honoring and protecting that trust.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Carr ’76
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Alex D. Curtis
Headmaster