



THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

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PENNINGTON, N.J., September --- The Pennington School formally opened its 181st academic year with Convocation ceremonies on Friday, September 7. The School currently enrolls 520 students, with 100 in the Middle School. There is a six-to-one student/teacher ratio, and 43 countries are represented on 54-acre campus.

Despite drizzle that turned to downpour, spirits were high under the tent on O’Hanlon Green. A brass quintet played as the students entered, by grade, followed by the academic procession of faculty and trustees.

The program began with an invocation from Chaplain Aaron R. Twitchell, followed by the singing of “The Star-Spangled Banner” by a cappella group InTouch (juniors Annelise Cornet of Bordentown; Gabriela Montero of North Bergen; Molly Nelson of Yardley, Pa.; and Jenna Soliman of Hamilton). After welcoming remarks from Peter J. Tucci of New Hope, Pa., chair of the Board of Trustees and a 1979 alumnus of the School, there were greetings from various School constituencies. Holly Jones, teacher of history and economics, represented the faculty; student speakers were senior Katherine Reim of Skillman, president of the student government, and eighth-grade student Francesca Pendus of Yardley, Pa., representing the Middle School. Reim added a festive note to the proceedings: confetti!

Headmaster William S. Hawkey addressed the theme for this academic year: “Make a Difference.” He quoted words of Ernest Hemingway that the late Senator John McCain loved: “Today is only one day in all the days that will ever be. But what will happen in all the other days that ever come can depend on what you do today.” Hawkey challenged the student body to find their own ways to make a difference.

The Pennington School is an independent coeducational school for students in grades 6 through 12, in both day and boarding programs. The curriculum is college preparatory, with an emphasis on individual excellence, fostering the development of the whole student through academics, athletics, community service, and the creative and performing arts.

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HONOR.
VIRTUE.
HUMILITY.

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