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Springdale Preparatory School Planning to Open in Maryland in August

Progressive College Preparatory Boarding School to Hold Open House May 18, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

NEW WINDSOR, MD (March 24, 2017) -- What do Stephen Sondheim, John D Rockefeller III, Roger Staubach, and George W. Bush have in common? All attended U.S. boarding schools.

Reflecting on the mid-Atlantic area's need for a new, progressive boarding and day school, educational leaders are preparing for the opening of Springdale Preparatory School, located on 21 acres in New Windsor, Carroll County, Md., in August. Springdale's model stresses learning through success as well as failure and providing students the opportunity to reflect on their setbacks, a progressive approach that is attracting students, parents and teachers to the program.

Unlike other U.S. boarding schools, Springdale Preparatory School also has based its educational philosophy on mindfulness, dedicating set periods of time for all students to detach from academics, extracurricular activities, responsibilities and technology to gather their thoughts and reflect.

"We live in a very fast-paced world which is very intense for all of us. There is no question that mindfulness is something which should be an integral part of one's education," says Chris Macbrien, consultant and recruiter for 750 U.S. independent schools for more than 20 years. "Digging deeper, slowing down and being more in touch with yourself are essential. If you are not connected to yourself in a mindful way, it is very difficult to keep moving in a positive direction."

Springdale Prep will be based on a 360-degree, life skills program which supports lifelong experiential learning to prepare students to meet the challenges and adversity they will face in their adult lives, says Head of School Johnny Graham, a former boarding school student and professional educator for over 20 years. "Our program will operate according to our values of lifelong learning, respect and innovation, and these are applicable in all aspects of the school program including academic, residential, athletic and extracurricular offerings, all of which will be tailored to meet the individual needs of each student."

According to The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS), 60 percent of students apply to boarding school primarily for the opportunity to get a better education.

The Springdale Preparatory program will be open for students beginning in 5th grade and will focus on academic, social and emotional development. The program will instill a culture of respect, welcoming diversity to a community that will collaborate to achieve and solve problems. Its four signature labs – Robotics and Engineering, Computer Science and Database Systems, Finance and Mathematics, and Biology and Environmental Engineering –will provide in-depth, hands-on experiential participation in these diverse areas, culminating in long-term projects that enable growth and involvement.

The school will provide five- and seven-day boarding with a full schedule of weekend experiences and entertainment on and off campus. The independent school will welcome a diverse population of students of all nationalities, cultures, ethnicities and religious backgrounds. In addition, Springdale will open its doors to area students for day enrollment and home school students who register for specific classes or programs.

The demand for a boarding school education is rising as competition for college placements continues to grow. According to TABS, 78 percent of boarding school students say they were prepared for college versus private day school (36 percent) and public school (23 percent).

Springdale Preparatory will hold an open house for prospective families on May 18, 2017 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. To RSVP, call 855-405-8600, or visit www.springdaleps.org.