

# SEVEN QUESTIONS WITH...

## **BRENT JOHNSON, HEAD OF CONCORDIA PREPARATORY SCHOOL**



### **Tell us how you first got involved in with AIMS?**

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Last year I served as the Upper School Principal at Concordia Prep and used AIMS as a resource for professional development and listing job openings. As Head of School this year, I am continuing to discover the value of AIMS to our school.

### **What is your first memory as Head of School?**

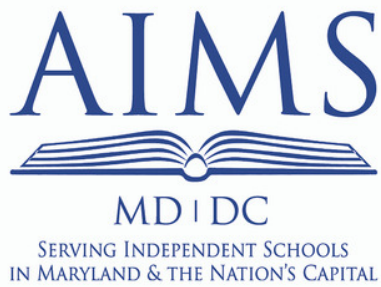
I remember the Board of Directors Meeting on the evening that I was offered the position of Headmaster. I was certain that a more experienced person was going to be selected, so I was incredibly thrilled by the vote of confidence by our Board members.

### **What has surprised you most about working with schools and/or students?**

Our students come from very diverse backgrounds and educational experiences and the talents and gifts that they bring to our campus have created a dynamic, inquisitive, and caring student body. Their capacity for kindness and understanding are uplifting and are daily reminders of the great hope that we can have for the future of our country.

### **What do you find the most challenging about independent education?**

I love the challenge of facing a rapidly changing educational landscape in an incredibly competitive market. In Maryland, the independent school system has deep roots within our communities. Our schools need to provide an excellent education that prepares our students to go to the colleges of their choice as well as ensure that they will be able to interact skillfully on a global stage. Finding the resources and putting the personnel in place to meet these goals is always a challenge.



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## **Tell us about someone who has influenced your work:**

I am blessed to have outstanding mentors who have served as resources during my career - especially during my transition to Head of School. Alan Freeman, the former Headmaster at CPS, helped me grow as an educator and continues to guide me throughout my career. Scott Ernstmeyer, the Executive Director of Lincoln Lutheran High School, has had a tremendous impact on my growth as an administrator. Andrew Gove, the Head of Long Island Lutheran School, is an excellent sounding board for struggles and opportunities I face as a new Head of School.

## **What might AIMS Members be surprised to know about you?**

I know how to bale hay and drive a tractor. Seriously! I also love going to New York City with my wife and two young daughters. We go to Broadway plays, scope out special exhibits at museums, and scout out ethnic restaurants in attempt to "eat around the world" in a weekend.