

Tom Richards, Head of School, has devoted his life to education. His journey began in local, independent schools as a student. Graduating from Trinity College in 1976, he then pursued a Masters degree in Education at the University of Pennsylvania, completing that degree in 1978.

Tom's first teaching position was at Episcopal Academy, his alma mater. There he taught middle school history, Latin and English. He then moved to The Hun School of Princeton also teaching middle school students. Upon returning to Pennsylvania, Tom joined the faculty at The Shipley School. During his thirteen year tenure, he was a middle school teacher, athletic director and head of the after school program.

With the birth of his third child, Tom chose to become a stay at home parent, and did so until Corey entered Kindergarten. Returning to the work force, Tom took a position at Woodlynde School, first as an upper school teacher and later as head of the middle and upper schools. Taking stock of his academic career, he felt that an integral part was missing. His reflection revealed that in all of his positions, a spiritual component was not at the core of the schools' missions.

His quest for that strong spiritual base led him to Goshen Friends School in 2006. Tom's dedication to the principles of Quaker education and his desire to preserve the uniqueness of Goshen Friends School is evident in his thoughtful approach to students, parents and faculty.

Tom and his wife Sandi, also a teacher, have three sons, Tommy (a former teacher, now pursuing his PhD in History at Temple), Will (a recent graduate of Penn and currently a personal trainer) and Corey (lacrosse aficionado). They reside in Wayne. When not sending birthday cards to students, walking his three active golden retrievers or greeting lower schoolers as they start their day, Tom can be found cheering on the Phillies and Eagles or enjoying a peaceful paddle along the Schuylkill.