



OFFICE OF THE HEADMASTER

THE LOVETT SCHOOL

4075 PACES FERRY ROAD, N.W.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30327-3009

TEL. (404) 262-3032 FAX (404) 479-8450

WWW.LOVETT.ORG

Recommendation of David Hagan and Life Brothers

Earlier this year, David Hagan held a session with our 75 senior boys. The purpose of this discussion was for David to engage these young men in very direct and honest conversation about the challenges they will face in college as adults and as citizens who will have more freedom than they have ever previously had. In ways that resonated powerfully with our young men, that engaged them, and that elicited their candid responses, David talked very forthrightly about alcohol, drugs, sex, abuse, sexual harassment, hazing, and a host of other issues that most high school seniors have not faced to the extent they may in college. Our young men were overwhelmingly positive in their assessment of this discussion with David Hagan. They welcomed the opportunity to hear about—and to talk about—sensitive, personal issues that they will almost certainly face in college. Many students have never had the opportunity to talk—at least to this level of detail and candor—about these challenges and temptations.

Moreover, in an enormously positive way, David urged the young men to always “watch each other’s back” and to be there for one another when a friend is at risk. That message hit our students very poignantly as well. David also spoke to these students at their level about the importance of being true to their core values and goals and of examining honestly their choices in the context of how they want to live their lives and how they want to be known. He suggested specific strategies for living out their true values and for avoiding temptations that many young men succumb to while in college. He told our students that they must embrace the benefits of a daily schedule, regular sleep, daily exercise, and good nutrition.

A touchstone principle for David is that boys must fight traditional stereotypes and that they have to be more willing to tell each other that they love one another.

On the heels of this program, one mother wrote, “I just wanted to report back that (my son) came home today and has not stopped talking about the speaker (David Hagan). Apparently, David made a great impression on (my son) and hopefully many other boys as well. Thank you so much for making the programming available!!”

I am leaving Lovett as Headmaster this year, but my sense is that the school will decide to have David back in coming years. While he was here, he also spoke to a group of Upper School faculty who are part of an ad hoc group examining the boys’ experience at Lovett. The faculty colleagues who met with David were also very impressed.

Please let me know if you would like additional information. We have enormous respect for David Hagan and the truly path-breaking, transforming work he is doing with young men through Life Brothers.

Sincerely,

William S. Peebles IV
Headmaster