

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ALMADEN COUNTRY SCHOOL APPOINTS OLE JORGENSEN AS HEAD OF
SCHOOLS**

November 13, 2007 – SAN JOSE, Calif. -- The Board of Trustees of Almaden Country School (ACS), a private non-sectarian school in San Jose, California, voted unanimously to appoint Ole Jorgenson as its next Head of Schools, effective July 1, 2008. He will succeed Jean Delwiche, the former ACS principal, who returned as interim Head of Schools for the 2007-08 academic year.

The hiring of a Head of Schools is among the most significant moments in the life of a school, and the responsibility of greatest importance for a Board of Trustees. Dr. Jorgenson's appointment concludes an exhaustive national search that started with 36 candidates. The Search Committee worked in partnership with a nationally recognized educational search agency, Carney, Sandoe and Associates.

Malcolm Bordelon, Co-Chair of the Search Committee, cited Dr. Jorgenson's "resonance with 'the Country School way' that includes a passion for strong values, developmentally-based learning, and community culture." In addition, Mr. Bordelon cited not only Dr. Jorgenson's "natural ability to relate but also his collaborative, inclusive, and interactive leadership style." Of great significance was the positive

response Dr. Jorgenson elicited from students, parents, faculty, staff, and trustees during his recent campus visits. Dr. Jorgenson's history of personal and professional commitment to life-long learning, his impeccable integrity, and his breadth and depth of experience in the educational field were also critical factors in his selection.

“You only have to spend five minutes in the presence of children and teachers at Almaden Country School to realize there are magical connections happening, with outgoing and joyful faces everywhere you look,” Dr. Jorgenson said. “These relationships are the heart of a strong school.”

Dr. Jorgenson earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Washington State University and his doctorate in educational leadership from Arizona State University. He has served as a teacher and administrator in a variety of public and independent schools in the United States and abroad including his current role as Headmaster of Hawaii Preparatory Academy, a prestigious K-12 day and boarding school. Dr. Jorgenson also was president-elect of the Association of Science Materials Centers and a faculty member with the National Science Resources Center's Leadership Assistance for Science Education Reform. Dr. Jorgenson has published numerous papers and presented on topics such as school improvement, leadership, personnel management, and science education. Dr. Jorgenson, his wife Tanya, and their daughter are very excited about moving to the San Jose community. They appreciate the many amenities and the quality of life available in

this part of Northern California as they begin a long-term commitment to both Almaden Country School and the San Jose area.

“My wife, Tanya, and I believe the family feeling at Almaden Country School promises a loving, caring environment for our daughter.” Dr. Jorgenson said. “It's that commitment to nurturing that sets Almaden Country School apart from so many other schools—and feeling safe, loved, valued—that is the foundation for success in the primary, elementary, and middle school years. ACS families have chosen well by enrolling their children here, and we're thrilled that our own daughter will be welcomed and encouraged and stimulated to celebrate her potential when we arrive next year!”

Almaden Country School is in its 26th year of *discovering the gifts in every child*.

ACS is located at 6835 Trinidad Drive in San Jose, CA 95120. Phone (408) 997-0424. The school offers programs for students from 4 years of age through 8th grade. Its teaching philosophy is based on the knowledge that each child has unique capabilities and talents. ACS offers Personal Learning Plans for each student; a Character & Competence program for developing strong, ethical leaders; small class sizes; a broad and challenging curriculum; and passionate teachers who share a genuine love of children.

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