

## Celebrating a Career of Service



**From** MeckEd <info@mecked.org>  
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# MeckEd.

## A Message from MeckEd's Board of Directors

Dear MeckEd Friends, Partners, and Supporters:

**Our trusted Executive Director and leader, Ross Danis, is retiring!**

We knew this day would come, as Ross told the board and staff in January of his plans to retire at the end of the academic year. His eight years of service with MeckEd fundamentally changed the way we support our students, grew the organization's capacity for direct service, and navigated the many challenges of the pandemic and beyond. **The results: our 2022 high school student graduation rate was 100%!!**

Ross has retired effective April 4, 2023. As he takes a well-deserved rest, he is also supporting the transition where possible. The board has selected the very capable, long-serving COO Shelly Biby to serve as acting CEO/Executive Director. At the same time, we continue our search for a new permanent director. We plan to post the job listing with the NC Center for Nonprofits and with other educational job boards. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please be in touch!

This sudden transition in leadership may seem surprising, yet it coincides with an opportunity to show your support for MeckEd and its mission to connect our students with the resources they need to be successful young people. Ross lived his commitment to the youth in Charlotte with dedicated leadership as a fearless champion for our students. We invite you to help keep the good work of MeckEd going by making a special donation in honor of Ross Danis and his work, you can do so directly on the [MeckEd website](#).

Please refer any questions or follow-up to either me as board chair, by email [jenniferdwroberts@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferdwroberts@gmail.com) or at 704-836-6268, or to our interim CEO Shelly Biby, at [sbiby@mecked.org](mailto:sbiby@mecked.org) or at 704-615-6249.

If you want to wish Ross well, please reach him at his personal email, [rossdanis@ymail.com](mailto:rossdanis@ymail.com) (note that it is ymail not gmail). We will be certain to pass along your well wishes as we will plan a retirement party for Ross later this spring.

Thanks for all your support of MeckEd and the amazing opportunity, promise, support, and bright futures it brings to Mecklenburg County's youth. We will continue to grow and thrive together!

Warm regards,

Jennifer Roberts

MeckEd Board Chair,

On Behalf of the Entire MeckEd Board

### Donate In Honor of Ross



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