

**Debbie Keeran** was hired as a first grade teacher at Columbus Academy in 1979 and soon transitioned to what was then a new kindergarten program in the early '80s. In 1993, she started Academy's PreK program and spent a total of 17 years teaching in lower school classrooms. She became the Early Childhood Director, Assistant Head of Lower School and Interim Head of Lower School before joining the admissions office a quarter-century ago.

A *cum laude* graduate of Wittenberg University, Debbie and her husband Keith have two daughters, Meredith Kessler '96 and Kelsey Boole '01, who are both in the Columbus Academy Athletic Hall of Fame. Debbie concluded her remarkable career at Columbus Academy as the Commencement speaker on June 7, 2021.

However, beyond her impressive accomplishments and accolades, for a generation of Academy families Debbie's true legacy lies in her role as a wonderfully welcoming guide through the admissions process.