



## PHILLIP SCHWENK

### FOUNDING PRINCIPAL

Mr. Schwenk was born in Colorado and grew up in New Mexico. He earned a BS in Economics from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. During that time, he spent a semester in Oaxaca, Mexico taking classes on Mexican politics and history, as well as Spanish writing and grammar. He also holds an MA in Educational Foundations and an MA in Education Administration both from California State University.

Mr. Schwenk has been a well-respected leader in the world of education for 25 years. He was a social studies teacher for 12 years and has been an administrator for 15 years. Before coming to Ohio as an administrator, he started several charter schools in Los Angeles, California where he was committed to ensuring the best opportunities for students academic and personal success.

Mr. Schwenk is mindful of the fact that parents are the primary educators of their children, so his expectation is that NOCA parents will be very involved at the school. Part of his intrigue in working with the community schools is that the school emerges from a grassroots initiative; therefore, he wants to honor those values by dialoguing with parents.

*"I'm really excited to work at NOCA because it's the closest to my own set of values. We can openly discuss Judeo-Christian commentary and Western tradition because those ideas matter! Our kids will receive a strong education, which will enable them to compete anywhere! But, most importantly, I want good, decent human beings, who are nice to each other, graduating from NOCA. People that can go out and enjoy beauty, truth, and have relevant conversations about thoughtful topics."*

Mr. Schwenk and his wife, Maria, have two college-aged sons. He enjoys traveling, is an avid reader, and has a passion for history, culture, and languages. He also spends time participating in sports as well as coaching and watching basketball games.