



April 13, 2020

Dear Parents, Faculty, Staff and Members of the Board,

We are writing to update you on the progress of our Head of School search.

Immediately following Joanna DeStefanis' notification of departure, the Board of Directors engaged the services of Dr. Mary Seppala, a search consultant with Educators' Collaborative, to assist us in the process of hiring our next Head of School to join our community in July 2020.

Initial steps included the formation of a Search Committee and the distribution of a community-wide survey. The survey sought input to determine the school's present and future needs and to understand the community's perspective regarding the professional qualifications and personal attributes desired in our next Head of School. On March 10, our consultant visited our school and met with Joanna, faculty, staff, parents, Board members, and the newly formed Search Committee identified below.

#### **Head of School Search Committee**

Kara Adams, Committee Co-chair, Board Member and Current Parent

Ken Feyl, Committee Co-chair, Board Member and Alumni Parent

Brian Banigan, President, Board of Directors and Current Parent

Joanna Barnas, Current Parent

Susan Burns, Faculty

Michelle Finno, Administrator

Lauren Mrachko, Faculty

Jocelyn Pan, Current Parent

Monalisa Shroff, Board Member

Eric Trickett, Current Parent

Kara Vitiello, Faculty

John Zhuang, Board Member

The Search Committee has been meeting remotely with our consultant, and using all community input, finalized a leadership profile for our next Head of School. This profile can be viewed in the Head of School Search section of our website.

Our consultant then began actively recruiting and interviewing potential candidates. Dossiers of qualified candidates were forwarded to the Search Committee. On April 9 the Search Committee met to discuss the candidates and decided to advance some of the candidates to a full confidential Search Committee video conference interview on April 18.

Following the April 18 interview session, the Search Committee will determine if any of the interviewed candidates will advance to the finalist phase of the search. Any candidate advanced to the finalist phase will be publicly announced and relevant portions of their dossier will be shared with the community. We will then prepare for the next phase that will likely need to be done remotely but will be organized in a manner to include community input.

We will send out an additional notification of the process following our April 18 meeting and also post progress notes on our website.

Thank you for your patience as we navigate the search under unusual and challenging circumstances. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Search Committee Co-Chairs Kara Adams ([karakinsonadams@gmail.com](mailto:karakinsonadams@gmail.com)) or Ken Feyl ([kfeyl@lagrassearchitects.com](mailto:kfeyl@lagrassearchitects.com)).



Kara Adams  
Search Committee Co-Chair



Ken Feyl  
Search Committee Co-Chair



Brian Banigan  
President, Board of Directors