

Baker eBlast

August 23, 2016

Dear Baker Community,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! On behalf of the school's Head of School (HOS) Search Committee, I wanted to provide an update on the status of our search for a new Baker Head and alert you to some key September dates to hold on your calendars.

The HOS Search Committee has been hard at work over the summer, and we are on track, as previously communicated, to announce a new Head of School in October. The new Head would start July 1, 2017, after Dan Schwartz leaves the school on June 30, 2017.

The Baker Head position garnered interest from dozens of prospective candidates, and our consultants at Educators' Collaborative (EC) thoroughly vetted all candidates and presented a slate of 15 quarter-finalists to the Head of School Search Committee in July. Those 15 candidates presented a detailed resume, application letter, educational philosophy statement and references to the Committee. EC had also interviewed each person and preliminarily checked references, allowing EC to present candidate summaries that aligned with key criteria the Committee had prioritized for an ideal Head.

After extensive discussion and live input from the EC team, members of the HOS Search Committee selected 7 semi-finalists for one-hour, in-person interviews at Baker on August 27. All 7 of these candidates accepted our interview request and expressed strong interest in Baker. While candidates are still confidential at this stage, the pool is deep and strong, with a mix of sitting heads and "rising stars," all with extensive independent school and/or progressive education experience.

On the 27th, the Committee expects to select three finalists for day-and-a-half campus visits on the following dates: September 14-15, September 26-27 and September 28-29.

I've [attached](#) a draft interview schedule and would ask you to hold the following Community Meetings on your calendars (note that there are evening and morning options to meet each finalist):

- Monday, Sept. 14 - 5:45 to 6:45 pm or Tuesday, Sept. 15 - 8:30-9:30 am
- Monday, Sept. 26 - 5:45 to 6:45 pm or Tuesday, Sept. 27 - 8:30-9:30 am
- Wednesday, Sept. 28 - 5:45 to 6:45 pm or Thursday, Sept. 29 - 8:30-9:30 am

After all finalists visit the school, the HOS Search Committee will meet to make a recommendation of our new Head of School to the Board. It will then become the Baker Board's responsibility to make an offer to the proposed new Head and finalize an employment contract. Again, this should put us on track to announce the new Head to the community in October.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or suggestions at

headsearch@bakerdemschool.org. Please also visit bakerdemschool.org/headsearch for all previous updates and more information about the search process.

The HOS Search Committee is very optimistic that we have some excellent choices for our new Head of School, and we look forward to introducing the finalists to the community in September. Thank you for your participation in this important school initiative!

Sincerely,

Stacey Empson
Chair, Head of School Search Committee

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