



Episcopal Day School
Grades 1-8 Campus

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Dear Members of the Episcopal Day School Community:

I am writing to update you on the search process that is now in place for the new Head of School. By now, most of you are aware that we have started a search to find our next Head of School. For those who may have missed the announcement, please see Father Michael Hoffman's letter naming the search committee [here](#).

We have had two very productive meetings to date. Our first action was to identify and engage a search-consulting firm to assist us in this all-important task. After evaluating several firms, we are pleased to report that Educational Directions Inc., of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, will be our consultant. Led by President Stephen DiCicco, the firm will begin its work immediately. Founded in 1987, Educational Directions Inc. (EDI) has carried out over 375 head of School searches across the country (including numerous Episcopal schools). It is a highly respected national firm, and Stephen brings experience, expertise and enthusiasm to the search. I invite you to visit the company's web site at www.edu-directions.com for more information. It is our goal to have the permanent Head of School selected by late Fall 2017 so that there will be ample transition time before he or she starts in July of 2018.

The search process will be open and inclusive. EDI has developed a School Community Survey, which you can access [here](#). The individual answers of the survey will remain anonymous and will go directly to EDI for compilation. I strongly encourage everyone to participate. The deadline for completion is April 20, so please complete as soon as possible.

On May 1st and 2nd, Stephen will be in Pensacola to interview all groups within the school to establish what we seek in our next leader. Using your input, EDI and the Search Committee, will develop a clear and definitive position description to attract the appropriate candidates. We are currently working on finalizing the schedule for EDI's visit. Once the schedule is completed, we will publish it for the community. We hope that everyone will be able to attend one of the sessions and share his or her views.

Finally, I want to thank the Episcopal Day School parents, staff, faculty, School Board, Christ Church Vestry, and Ed Costello for laying the groundwork and guaranteeing an easy transition between the past, interim and future Head of School. EDS is fortunate enough to have Ed Costello remain as Head of School until we are able to find the appropriate replacement. This gives us the time to conduct a thorough search and survey the largest possible field of candidates to recruit the best leader possible. Having said that, re-enrollment is going very well and open enrollment has started at a brisk pace. If you know of anyone who may fit well into our Episcopal Day School family, do not hesitate to give Lisee Sherrill a call while space is still available. Last, but not least, I want to give a big thanks to Father Michael Hoffman for his leadership, not only at Christ Church but also at Episcopal Day School. It is leadership such as his that will continue to make Episcopal Day School the best place for our children.

On behalf of the Search Committee,

Collier Merrill
Chairman