



375 Pearl St
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May 21, 2009

Dear Members of the Brooklyn Friends Community,

I am pleased to inform you that I have been appointed Chair of the Head of School Search Committee, which will work to find a worthy successor for Michael Nill. Joining me on the committee are seven other Board members representing the various parts of our community – faculty, administrators, parents, Quakers, and alumni. The BFS Board of Trustees has engaged Clay Stites of Resource Group 175 to assist in this important effort. Clay has a long track record of successful head searches and strong ties to Quaker institutions, including Friends Seminary and the Friends Council on Education.

BFS will employ a thoughtful and inclusive search process. Clay Stites will visit the school next week from May 26th to 29th during which time he will interview faculty, administration, parents, students, alumni, members of the Quaker community, and Board members. His objective is to get to know the school well in order to prepare a position and opportunity statement that will be used to recruit prospective candidates and to allow him to best represent Brooklyn Friends in discussions with those candidates.

Parents and family members interested in sharing their perspective on the qualities that make BFS unique and future opportunities for the school can meet with Clay from 8:15-9:30 AM or from 6:30-8:30 PM on THURSDAY, MAY 28TH. The morning session will take place in the 3rd floor conference room; the evening session will be in the Meeting House at 375 Pearl Street. Light refreshments will be provided. Please come and share your aspirations for our school so that the position profile truly reflects our institution and the qualifications and experience we seek in our next head. If you need childcare and/or homework help during the evening meeting, please sign up with Cheryl at the front desk.

The networking phase of the search will commence once the position and opportunity statement is finalized. Outreach to sources and confidential recruitment of candidates will begin in June and continue throughout the summer. During this time we'll also form advisory committees to assist in the process. The Search Committee will see the first group of candidates when school re-opens in the fall. As final candidates emerge, the entire BFS community will have a chance to meet them in open sessions and to share their impressions with the Search Committee which will consider all opinions as it comes to a consensus. The final decision and responsibility for selection rest solely with the Board of Trustees who will employ the next head of BFS. We expect to name a new head of school by the end of 2009.

In June we will set up a search web page on the school web site so that you can stay abreast of the process. We look forward to your participation in the search. I know that you will join me in lending your very best efforts and great good will and spirit to our fine school as it works to find its next head.

In Friendship and on behalf of the Search Committee,
Lisa Sack
Chair

The Committee:

Karine Blemur-Chapman, Associate Director of Admissions
Verina Crawford
Richard Cutler '62
Peter Laughter '89
Alice Pope, (Assistant Chair, Head Search Committee, Chair of the Board)
Karen Robinson (Board Co-Chair)
Whitney Thompson, Director of MS Programs; Chair, Health, US Quakerism