



September 11, 2009

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Dear Members of the Brooklyn Friends Community:

Welcome back to school and these clear, crisp September days. I write to update you on the search for our new Head of School.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to read the position profile, it is posted on our web site (www.brooklynfriends.org/headsearch). We prepared this profile last May following conversations with administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents, trustees, and alumnae/i. It describes the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for Brooklyn Friends and our new head.

Over the summer, our search consultant Clay Stites began recruiting candidates, while the Search Committee convened to form advisory councils (*listed on the reverse side of this page*) and to discuss the qualifications and experience desired in our next head. In early September, Clay presented the Search Committee with a portfolio of 30 candidates whom he had vetted and interviewed. It included educators rich both in teaching and administrative experience with some formidable credentials in complex, highly regarded institutions. From this group, the Search Committee has selected 11 candidates for in-person interviews. As all of them are currently employed in leadership roles at other schools, we cannot provide any names; we owe those interested in the position complete confidentiality until we make a firm commitment to actively pursue them.

Depending on the number of candidates who emerge from these screening interviews with the Search Committee, we will either continue to a semi-finalist round or move directly to finalists. During the semi-finalist stage, candidates will meet with the administrative team, the Search Committee, and the advisory councils. Once we proceed to the finalist stage, all members of the community will have a chance to meet the candidates and provide feedback. We expect candidate visits to commence in late September.

We thank all of you who have contributed to the search thus far, either by sharing your thoughts on the future of the school or suggesting names of possible candidates.

In keeping with the school's green initiatives, further updates on the head search will be posted on the school website and communicated through BFS E-News, our weekly e-mail newsletter to parents. Please watch e-news and check the website as the search progresses.

In Friendship and on behalf of the Search Committee,

Lisa Sack
Chair, Head Search Committee

The Committee:

Karine Blemur-Chapman, Verina Crawford, Richard Cutler '62, Darrick Hamilton '89, Peter Laughter '89, Alice Pope, Karen Robinson, Whitney Thompson '90

HEAD SEARCH ADVISORY COUNCILS

THE FACULTY/STAFF COUNCIL:

US: Sidney Bridges, English Chair, MS/US English
Mark Buenzle, US Art, Art History, Psychology

MS: Marna Herrity, MS Math
Jesse Phillips-Fein (Class of 1997), LS/MS/US Dance

LS: Margaret Bary, PS/LS Dance, Performing Arts Chair
Jonathan Edmonds, Second Grade Head Teacher

PS: Maura Eden, Preschool Fours Head Teacher
Yasmin Kudrolli, Preschool Fours Full Day Head Teacher

Staff: Taunya Black, Director of Afterschool
Cheryl Foote, Administrative Assistant, Pearl Street Receptionist

Co-Chairs: Maura Eden and Jonathan Edmonds

THE PARENT COUNCIL:

Dianne Abeloff (Jake Nager, 11th grade, Max Nager, Class of 2006)
Wendy Burke (Raymond, 6th grade)
Dena Douglas, Class of 1983 (Noelle Patterson, 1st grade)
Salome Galib (Salma McLaughlin, 2nd grade, Santiago McLaughlin PS3s, Yamila McLaughlin, K)
Ricardo Granderson (Amara, 9th grade)
Peter Horowitz (Sammy, 6th grade)
Macon Jessop (Galen, 3rd grade)
William Mooney (Will, 10th grade)
Beth Schwartz (Betsy Allen, 2nd grade, Lila Allen, K)
Jane Smith (Jacob Ginsberg, 10th grade, Adam Ginsberg, 8th grade, Sam Ginsberg, 5th grade)
Mary Watson (Amy, 1st grade)

Co-Chairs: Salome Galib, Peter Horowitz

THE HONORARY COUNCIL:

The honorary council is made up of people from the BFS community with a longstanding and significant commitment to the school, including former board members, alumnae/i, and members of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting.

Boyce Bengé
Conway Boyce
Mechele Plotkin Flaum, Class of 1968
Fern Gentile
Mae Jackson
Sharon Kennedy
Susan Price, Class of 1986
Dana Cook Stone, Class of 1976
Benjamin Warnke

Co-Chairs: Fern Gentile, Benjamin Warnke