



Dyker Heights Campus

1 Poly Prep Drive, Brooklyn, NY 11228 T (718) 836-9800

Park Slope Campus

50 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, NY 11215 T (718) 768-1103

January 16, 2024

Greetings Poly Community,

We hope you enjoyed the long weekend. Our committee has been working continuously since our last communication and we are eager to give you an update on our progress.

As a reminder, last June our search consultants notified nearly 6,000 educators about the exciting opportunity to lead Poly Prep.

In September, Carney Sandoe visited our campus to gather input directly from faculty, staff, administration, alumni, parents, and students through in-person meetings, phone and written correspondence, and a survey. Not only did this input contribute to the creation of the Position Statement, but it also served as a guiding star to reaffirm the qualities we seek in our next leader.

Our Position Statement yielded over 100 inquiries from a diverse range of local, regional, national, and international educators comprised of current sitting heads of schools, senior administrators, and other top educators and professionals. In October, Carney Sandoe vetted the most qualified of these candidates and narrowed the list to 33 who ultimately submitted full applications.

During November, the Search Committee meticulously reviewed and carefully debated these candidates; ultimately, we selected the 11 most promising among them and invited them for hour-long interviews with the search committee. These hour-long interviews were held either in person or via Zoom to accommodate those who couldn't travel to campus.

After extensive research and thoughtful deliberations, the Search Committee reached further consensus to narrow the pool to four extremely talented, diverse finalists that best embody the guiding principles identified by our community that would make a successful Head of School. Some of these finalists are nationally recognized, current Heads of Schools who are engaging only in very specific, entirely confidential searches.

After consulting with specialists, we determined the most effective approach to balancing the need for confidentiality with our commitment to involving community voices was to establish small groups of primarily elected representatives (comprised of Parents' Association Officers, HUGS Officers, Faculty and Staff Council Members, select faculty members, Board of Governors Officers, and Trustees) to meet with these finalists on campus.

The four finalist visits occurred at the end of December. At the end of these visits, each candidate met once again with the Search Committee to digest and process their experiences and impressions.

Following these standardized meetings, all participants provided feedback on these candidates both directly and indirectly through anonymous surveys and direct conversations which were also shared with the Search Committee for their consideration.

The Search Committee met to gain consensus on the best candidate to recommend to the Board for approval. The goal is then to move forward as quickly as possible to reach an agreement and complete a formal hiring process to obtain the candidate of choice in a very competitive environment.

It's been incredibly gratifying to witness how the mission and accomplishments of Poly have resonated with this exceptional group of candidates. At every step of our deliberations, we have been guided by the priorities and input of the community.

We will keep you informed of next steps of the search and selection process as we continue to move forward in securing the next leader of Poly.

With Optimism,

Laurie Rosenblatt P'23, '26
Robin Bramwell Stewart '86, P'16
Co-Chairs of the Search Committee