



October 6, 2022

Dear Fayetteville Academy Community,

As we prepare for our second Head of School finalist visit next week, we wanted to provide a bit more context about the search up to this point. Over a period of two months, our consultants at Southern Teachers received 35 applications for the Head of School position at FA. This candidate pool included twelve candidates from North Carolina or Virginia, including seven from here in Fayetteville. Thirteen of the candidates had head of school experience at an independent school.

Our consultants interviewed each one of the applicants and checked initial references before presenting them to the Search Committee for review. Committee members examined the files and met for thoughtful discussions that yielded a strong field of eight semi-finalists. This group of eight included one local candidate and six with head of school experience in an independent school, a quality that became increasingly important to the committee members as we were looking for candidates with a proven track record of managing budgets, building enrollment, and raising money.

Semi-finalists participated in Zoom interviews with the Search Committee and answered a series of structured interview questions that related back to the goals and objectives we set early in the process for our next Head of School. The Search Committee discussed the reference work completed by our consultants as well as information they gleaned from their own interactions with the candidates.

Taking all of this information together, the Search Committee deliberated and selected two finalist candidates to bring to campus for in person interviews.

The Search Committee is quite encouraged by the process so far and is confident bringing our best candidates to meet our community will, in the end, deliver a new leader who will do great things for our school.

Sincerely,

Wells Alderman and Billy West

Search Committee Chairs