

# DERBY ACADEMY

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Dear Members of the Derby Academy Community,

Over the past eight months, the Search Committee has been actively engaged in developing a thoughtful and intentional search process for Derby Academy's next Head of School. We are pleased to update you on our progress thus far, and we look forward to your involvement and participation in the coming weeks. Here are some of the steps we have taken since we last communicated.

More than 40 candidates completed the application process and those that were submitted to us were deemed by our search consultants, Educators' Collaborative, the most qualified to lead our school. In mid-July, the Search Committee reviewed the dossiers of 23 candidates from the pool. From those 23 candidates, the Search Committee selected nine candidates to invite to Zoom interviews with the entire Search Committee on August 12-13. After two full days of interviews, the Search Committee has decided to reserve four dates and times for the selected candidates to visit Derby as finalists: September 10-11, September 14-15, September 17-18, and September 21-22.

We are planning to have each candidate spend two days on campus to safely meet with as many members of our school community as is possible under the current circumstances. We anticipate that candidates will have both in-person, socially-distanced meetings with small groups, and larger forums via Zoom.

Prior to each candidate's visit, we will share a brief biography and provide the specific days and times for the Derby community to "meet" each candidate, hear their perspectives, and participate in a Q&A session. Following our virtual "Meet & Greet," you will receive a survey to provide feedback on each candidate, which will be reviewed by the Search Committee prior to submitting their recommendation to the Board of Trustees for Derby's next Head of School. The Board will then convene to review the Search Committee's recommendation and will make a decision by the end of September.

We are very grateful to our fellow Search Committee members for the time and effort each has put into this important process thus far and to the Advisory Committee for the work ahead of them. Each of these candidates impressed our team with their wealth of experience and enthusiasm for Derby and its mission. We will continue to provide updates in the weeks ahead.

Best regards,

Jeff Alexander & Caroline Counselman  
Search Committee Co-Chairs