

To the Episcopal Day School Community,

I have had a busy first three months as the Rector of Christ Church, and so far, one of my favorite parts of the job is working with EDS. Doing chapel, teaching some 8th grade religion classes, and getting to know the staff and kids has been a blessing to me. (As an aside, I am hoping to teach some 7th and 6th grade classes as well). As a father with a rising kindergartner and 5th grader, I am fully invested in the Episcopal Day School, and we are so glad that our kids are a part of this wonderful place.

The main purpose of this letter is to update you on the search process for the next Head of School. A committee has been formed that represents the breadth of the EDS community. Half of the committee was named by the EDS School Board and half by the Vestry of Christ Church. In addition to those names, I was charged to pick one faculty member, and I have selected Liz Harrison.

I have also selected the chair of the committee, Collier Merrill. Collier has experience with searches for non-profits, positions of government, and the private sector, and as an alumnus and a parent with two EDS graduates and one currently in 1st grade, he has a good grasp of the mission and identity of our school.

Below is the full Search Committee:

Collier Merrill (chair), Justin Beck, Katy Collins, Dr. Jason Foland, Katherine Mitchem, Tom Owens, Jake Renfroe, Tonja Ward, Liz Harrison (faculty representative)

Jay Bradshaw, as the Chair of the EDS Board, and I, as the Rector of Christ Church, will be involved ex officio. Once a final candidate is selected, the EDS School Board will make the hire with consent from the Vestry of Christ Church. Our goal is to have a new Head of School named by re-enrollment next year with a start date of Summer 2018. The input of parents, staff and the community will be vital to this process, and we will communicate the nuts and bolts of gathering that input in a few months.

Finally, I am so grateful for Ed Costello for his leadership during this transition and for all the teachers and staff who work tirelessly for our children. Since 1952, EDS has been an exceptional school, educating generations of children in a loving, faith based community. There is so much potential in our future, and I would ask your prayers as we discern the Head of School who will lead us into that future.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask me or anyone else on the EDS Board or the Search Committee.

In Christ,  
Father Michael Hoffman  
Rector, Christ Church Parish