



# Head of School Search Update

Dear Pathfinder Community,

Many thanks again to all who were able to participate in the listening sessions hosted last week by our search consultant, Tracy Bennett. We greatly appreciate all who provided additional feedback through our online survey—we had nearly 60 respondents. Your input has guided our development of the [Information for Candidates](#) (IFC) document. This comprehensive document provides potential candidates with an overview of our school, an outline of the opportunities and challenges before us, and a profile of the skills and attributes we will look for in our next Head of School.

We would like to report back on what we heard from the Pathfinder community in the survey. Specifically, the most referenced answers from respondents were as follows:

- **Most valued aspects of The Pathfinder School** are the whole-child approach to learning (49%), small class sizes/low student-teacher ratio (46%), and the commitment to experience-based education (41%).
- **Priorities for the next Head of School** include recruiting and retaining high quality faculty and staff (73%), nurturing a cohesive school culture of shared values and vision, (64%), and assuring financial stability and sound management of resources (31%).
- **Professional skills believed most important** for the next Head include recruitment, retention, support, and management of faculty (75%), leadership/management experience in an independent school (63%), and an understanding of constructivist, experience-based education (51%).
- **Most important personal attributes** include being approachable, accessible, and collaborative (63%), honest, trustworthy, and transparent (44%), and forward thinking and visionary (41%).

As highlighted in the IFC, we are seeking a leader “who enthusiastically embraces and champions the school’s commitment to educating the whole child through experience-based learning that prepares students for a successful academic journey at Pathfinder and beyond. The next Head of School will be a visionary leader and passionate educator—and, of course, love children! An inspiring communicator who is warm and approachable, and brings

enthusiasm, integrity, flexibility, and innovative thinking will thrive and experience success in the Pathfinder community.”

**We encourage you to share information about this exciting leadership opportunity in your personal and professional circles** and to direct any interested individuals to Tracy, who will follow up directly. Throughout the process, input and involvement from faculty, staff and our parent and alumni community will be highly valued, with opportunities provided for further input and participation.

We've created a [Head of School Search page](#) on our website, where we will keep you updated on our progress. Search Committee communication, the search timeline, and frequently asked questions are posted there - we hope you will find this helpful. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, and thank you in advance for your time and continued commitment to Pathfinder!

Warmly,

Brianne Allen, Search Committee Chair

**Head of School Search Committee**

Brianne Allen  
Taryn Carew  
Peter Galopin  
Jesy Greilick  
Jessica Hubl  
Mary Jamé  
Dina Kennedy  
Curtis Kuttnauer  
David Reimer  
Crissy Serby  
John Stillwell  
Christopher Walter  
Andy Weir  
Erin Word