

# WARDLAW + HARTRIDGE

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March 11, 2022

Dear Wardlaw+Hartridge Community,

As we all get ready for Spring Break, we write today to share with you the next steps the Board of Trustees has developed to identify and recruit our next Head of School. We intend to keep the school community well informed throughout the search process and will be relying upon the broad participation of the community to ensure a successful outcome. As part of our commitment to keep the community informed, we have included a [Head of School Search](#) tab on the school's website, where we will post information and updates.

Consistent with its responsibilities, the Board has appointed a Search Committee to conduct a comprehensive, national, and international search for a new Head of School. **All members of the school community are invited to share their thoughts about the search via an on-line survey conducted in advance of the community meetings. The survey will be available until March 29 at this [link](#).**

As you know, we (Ayesha Sitlani, President of the Board of Trustees, Parent '25, and Daniel Schildge, Trustee, Parent '15, '17, '20) will chair the committee, and its members are:

Katherine Szczubelek, Trustee, Parent '26, '28  
Missy VanBuren-Brown '72, Trustee, Alumna  
Sachina Lyons-Brown '89, Trustee, Alumna, Parent '22  
Robert Berry, Trustee, Parent '10, '13  
Seth Austin, Trustee  
Alarice Lonergan '99, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Alumna

The final selection of the next Head of School will be made by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of this Search Committee.



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The Board has retained [Educators Collaborative](#) to help with our search. This search firm has conducted more than 1,000 successful Head of School searches since 1971. Leading our project will be three partners in the firm, Nat Conard, Mary Seppala and Doug Jennings. These consultants have served as long-tenured heads of independent schools and have assisted over 25 Pre-K-12 schools with Head searches.

The success of this search will depend in large part on the input that the Search Committee and the consultants receive from the Wardlaw+Hartridge community. On March 31 and April 1, Nat, Mary and Doug will visit the school and conduct meetings with members of the community in order to develop a leadership profile for our next Head of School and to gain an understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing the next Head. In advance of the visit, we will share the schedule for these meetings with faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and students and invite your participation.

The EC consultants will soon begin to build a pool of candidates by listing the position with appropriate agencies and associations, contacting selected educational leaders to solicit recommendations for the position, and reaching out to potential candidates with whom they and their colleagues are familiar. If you have any nominations for candidates to be the next Head, there will be an opportunity to share them with the consultants.

If you have suggestions or questions, we encourage you to talk with members of the Search Committee. In the meantime, the Search Committee and Board of Trustees are grateful for your support and assistance.

Sincerely,

Ayesha Sitlani  
Dan Schildge  
Co-Chairs, Search Committee