



Update on Head of School Search: Site Visit on Feb 12-13 and Community Input

Dear Bennett Community,

As we begin the search for our next Head of School, below is an update on the next steps.

Our Search Partner: As mentioned in our earlier announcement, the Board and I have retained [Carney, Sandoe & Associates](#) to lead this comprehensive search. We are pleased to share that our CS&A Consultant will be [Chris Boyle](#), an expert in the field who has led more than seventy searches for educational leaders. As a former leader within the Chicago independent school community, Chris brings a deep understanding of our local landscape and a growing appreciation of the mission and unique value of Bennett Day School.

Your Input & Community Survey: If you have not yet, please complete the Community Survey by Friday, February 6, to share your thoughts on the priorities and leadership qualities we should seek. Your insights are incredibly helpful as we craft the Head of School position profile.

Consultant Site Visit: February 12-13: Building on the input gathered from the Community Survey, CS&A will conduct a comprehensive two-day site visit on Thursday, February 12, and Friday, February 13. During this visit, Chris Boyle will be on campus to experience the "Bennett Why" in action by touring campus, spending time in classrooms, and meeting with multiple groups and individuals to further inform the search profile and our next steps, including:

- **Family Association Chairs:** A gathering following morning drop-off to ensure parent/guardian perspectives are included.
- **Faculty and Staff:** Time before and after school to ensure faculty and staff perspectives are included.
- **School Leadership and Administration:** Multiple sessions with our leadership and administrative teams and individuals.
- **Search Advisory Committee:** A smaller group of faculty and staff (several of whom are also Bennett parents/guardians), to be selected by Jackie Miller to provide a comprehensive perspective across grade levels to inform the search.
- **Search Committee of the Board:** A session with the board search committee responsible for screening candidates with CS&A and making candidate recommendations to the board. I am supported on this committee by board members like [Gail Ward](#), founding Principal of Walter Payton High School, and [Betsy Morton](#), a human capital expert and former CHRO with an extensive background in education. We and CS&A will maintain strict confidentiality regarding candidates during the early screening process to ensure we attract the highest quality pool of leaders as well.

We continue to be committed to a search process that is thorough and honors the innovative and unique foundation of our Bennett community. We will follow up with additional updates as the search progresses.

With Gratitude,

Cameron Smith, Founder and CEO