



November 14, 2025

Dear Faculty and Staff, Students and Families, Trustees, Alumni, and Friends,

Over the past several weeks, many of you have devoted time, energy, and thoughtful engagement to meeting the candidates for our next Head of School. Your hospitality, your insightful questions, and the feedback you shared with the Search Committee were invaluable. This process has truly reflected the spirit of St. Michael's: warm, discerning, and deeply committed to the future of our school.

As we promised from the outset, we want to keep you fully informed as the search progresses. After careful deliberation - and in large part because of decisions made by the candidates themselves - we will not be moving forward with any of the three finalists. Our search will continue as we work to identify the right leader for St. Michael's.

All three candidates brought notable strengths. Two of them, Susan Johnson and John Murray, emerged as particularly strong matches for St. Michael's mission and priorities. Susan ultimately decided that this is not the right time for her and her husband Sean to relocate to Tucson. John accepted an offer at a school in Virginia. Each candidate expressed sincere gratitude for the warmth and welcome extended by this community and shared their deep admiration for St. Michael's, its people, and its purpose.

We are fortunate to have the gift of time. Because our current Head of School, Brendan Sullivan, provided early notice of his transition, we are prepared to continue this search with the patience, care, and rigor it deserves. Meanwhile, our exceptional faculty and staff - who embody the heart of St. Michael's every day - remain fully devoted to the strong teaching, sense of belonging, and joyful learning environment that define our school. That work continues with strength and stability.

In the weeks ahead, we will be in touch with additional information about the next steps in the search. Please know that the Search Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the Vestry remain united in our commitment to selecting a leader who will honor the remarkable progress St. Michael's has made under Brendan's leadership and guide us confidently into the years ahead. Thank you for your partnership, your engagement, and your trust.

Reed Karaim, Search Committee Chair  
Ian Milliken, Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Brother David Hedges, Rector