

Principal Search Committee

October 2021

searchcommittee@theparkersschool.org

A Broadly Representative Search Committee

Our succession plan calls for a Search Committee that is broadly representative of the school community as a whole and drawn from all key constituencies of the school: including, but not limited to:

- Trustees;
- Current students;
- Former students and graduates;
- Faculty & staff;
- Parents.

The proposed slate of committee members is drawn from these key constituencies.

Trustees

**Glenn Penna,
Committee Co-Chair**



Amy Jolly



Current Student

Theo Puterbaugh



In his words...

“I am a Division 3 student who has been at Parker for 5 year, which means that I have a decent understanding of how Parker runs and the values at Parker. I am also a CC Moderator, which puts me in the position of improving and making the school a better place for all. I feel like part of my duty to the other new students that will be coming in next school year (2022-2023) and the ones that follow, to find a person that has the passion and qualities that Todd and that Parker have. Thank you for talking the time to read this and considering me.”

Former Students and Graduates

Kayla Reeves McClellan '09



In her words...

"I believe I would be a valuable contributor to the Search Committee because:

- Passion for Parker: I have been fortunate to engage with Parker in a variety of capacities. As a student (Class of '09), I was highly engaged in the community and had the opportunity to attend and present at the Fall Forum multiple times-- spreading the good word of Parker on a national stage! As a Trustee (2013-2018), I chaired two committees during my tenure, Principal Evaluation being one of them (2016-2017). Currently, I am an Assistant Coach for the Cross Country team. I believe that experiencing Parker in these different ways give me a unique and holistic perspective.
- Experience with Searches: I have participated in a handful of searches in a professional capacity in higher education settings (Fisher College and UMass Lowell). Currently, I am co-leading a search at Simmons University.
- Parker will forever be an incredibly special and important place to me. It would be a honor to support and contribute to the important work of this search committee, as the next leader of this exceptional place is found."

Faculty and Staff

**Deb Merriam, P'25, P'26, Academic Dean,
Committee Co-Chair**



In her words...

“I would like to serve the school by being a member of the Search Committee. I would bring a perspective to the work that represents multiple constituencies as well as a long-standing sense of what the school is and wants to be. My knowledge of the program is both deep and wide, and I have a clear understanding of the work of the head of school and the qualities that will serve Parker well in the person who does that job in future years. I am well-versed in Parker’s past and present, and I hold strong goals for its future. I have the capacity and the skills to take on this work at this time, and I hope that I have your trust to do so with care and integrity.”

Faculty and Staff

**Henry Schrader '04,
Wellness**



In his words...

“I feel that I have a deep understanding of the different aspects of Parker. Having worked in all three divisions and been a student here, I can speak to the nuances of what makes Parker special and important. Additionally, in my cross-divisional role, I interact with many colleagues throughout the school and feel comfortable speaking to anyone interested in what's going on in the search process, when appropriate. Finally, in the past the head of school has functioned as the domain leader of my domain: I realize this might change; however, I have a vested interest in speaking to candidates about the different requirements that this role at Parker holds. Thanks for your consideration!”

Faculty and Staff

**Marena Cole,
Arts & Humanities**



In her words...

“After five years at Parker, I feel a vested interest in offering my service to the school in helping to determine a key aspect of its future. One asset I believe I have is being a product of Parker -- I got my training in NTC and completed NTC2, and now as a mentor teacher I feel like I understand well the core values of Parker as these experiences shaped the foundations of my practice and continue to shape the work I do with student and adult learning. I've been involved in the school's Race and Equity work over the past couple of years, both in our CFG as well as serving on the task force that worked last year to shape and direct the schoolwide equity work. Beyond my teaching and advising responsibilities, I'm also involved with a diverse range of school activities, such as the Board's Development subcommittee, D&D Club and the yearbook, which all give me a unique perspective and pulse on students and the school. For those who don't work closely with me, I think I can also safely say that I'm known as a hard and responsible worker with a keen eye for detail. Thus, I'm happy to step towards this work if the faculty thinks I can be of use!”

Parent

**Pam Gordon,
P'22, P'24, P'26**



In her words...

“I bring both the parent perspective and an understanding of Parker's philosophy through my own education and work. I have three children who attend Parker (12th, 10th, and 8th grades) and am deeply committed to Parker, wanting to see the school continue to thrive. I've been an educator for over 20 years and studied in college with Ted Sizer, who helped shape my educational philosophy. With kids who will remain at Parker for a number of years and just a genuine interest in education that follows the 10 Common Principles, I have a vested interest in the next leader and would love to be on the search committee.”

Parent

Mara Edgar, P'26



In her words...

“...Thank you for your consideration for my involvement. A little about my background and why I think I could add value. I have 25 years in executive talent management. Currently, I am the Managing Director of Human Capital for Riverside Partners, a \$13b investment fund. I lead executive search for Board of Directors, CEOs and C-level direct reports. I chair our DEI committee and work with major organizations and their leadership teams to build more inclusive work places. My daily work has me coordinating the search efforts, including identifying strategic search partners, negotiating the contracts (I’m also an attorney, and have negotiated 100s of search firm contracts), developing the score cards / key competencies and must win battles for the role. I’m well versed in assessment tools and onboarding of senior team members. I also help negotiate executive compensation packages. I personally know the heads of many diverse search firms, who focus on non-for profit...I love Parker and all it stands for. My daughter has never been happier in a school setting. Kind regards, Mara”

Appointment and Charge

“The Board of Trustees hereby appoints a Principal/HOS Search Committee with members drawn from key constituencies of the school and charges the committee with taking the necessary steps, with all deliberate speed, to formulate and present appointment recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding Parker’s next Principal/HOS. To assist the Search Committee in this work, the Board will engage a professional executive search consultant.”