

August 22, 2011

Dear Members of the Heathwood Hall Community,

I am writing today to provide you with an update regarding our Head of School search and the process we intend to follow in the months ahead. This change of leadership marks an important opportunity in the life of Heathwood Hall, one that the Board of Trustees is undertaking with both eager anticipation and great care.

Eleven members of the school community have been appointed to serve as the Head of School Search Committee. They are:

W. Leighton Lord III, Chair

- Attorney
- Past Board Member and Board Chair
- Current Parent

Michael D. Amiridis, Ph.D

- Provost – University of South Carolina
- Current Parent and Board Member

Linda J. Bell, MD

- Physician with State Government
- Current Parent and Board Member

Johnnie McFadden, Ph.D

- Professor at the University of South Carolina
- Former Heathwood Hall Faculty Member
- Current Board Member

Mr. Page Morris

- Retired Business Owner
- Current Board Member and Past Parent

Sally McKay

- Consultant
- Current Parent

Mary Belser

- Past Board Member and Board Chair
- Past Parent

Butch Bowers

- Attorney
- Current Parent

Julie Hicks

- Business Owner
- Current Parent

Stan Wood

- Faculty Member, Peak Director

The Right Reverend Andrew Waldo

- Bishop of The Diocese of Upper South Carolina
- Ex-Officio Board Member

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees has retained the highly respected educational consulting firm of Wickenden Associates in Princeton, New Jersey to assist us in the search. Wickenden Associates has conducted Head of School searches for nearly 300 independent schools across the nation, including over 40 in the Southeast and 30 Episcopal Schools. James Wickenden, the firm's President, and Susan Walters, Senior Search Consultant and Reference Director, will be visiting our school on August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> to meet with the Search Committee and to conduct a series of interviews with representatives of each of the school's constituencies. The information they collect will be used in the development of a position description that will inform potential candidates about this exciting career opportunity.

Please know that your participation in the Head of School search process is welcomed and very important. For those who do not have an opportunity to meet with Jim and Sue during their visit, I encourage you to complete and return by September 9 an online survey that is available via the Wickenden Associates website:

[www.wickenden.com](http://www.wickenden.com). On the website you will see a **Talk to Us** section with the link **Go to Survey**. The survey provides you with a means to share your thoughts about our school's strengths and challenges as well as the qualities we should be seeking in our next Head of School. The form may also be used to suggest potential candidates.

In consultation with Wickenden Associates, we have developed a tentative timetable for the search that calls for us to conduct an initial review of candidate folders in late October. The Search Committee will interview a small group of semifinalist candidates in mid-November and then select finalist candidates who will be introduced to the school community in early January. Our hope is that the Search Committee will be prepared to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees regarding the next Head of School in mid-February. We will, of course,

provide you with periodic updates throughout the search process. You may also consult the school website for progress reports.

Thank you in advance for your support as we undertake this important and exciting work on behalf of our School.

Sincerely,

Leighton Lord  
Chair of the Search Committee