Dear Wilson Hall Community, October 21st, 2026

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to share two important updates regarding Wilson Hall's leadership transition and the search for our next Head of School.

First, the Board has appointed Eddie Talley, our current Associate Head of School, to serve as Interim Head of School for the 2027–2028 school year, following Brent Kaneft's departure in June. Eddie knows Wilson Hall well and has been an important part of the school's leadership team. His experience, relationships throughout our community, and commitment to Wilson Hall make him well suited to provide continuity and steady leadership during this transition. We are grateful for his willingness to serve in this role and confident that the school will be in excellent hands.

We are also pleased to announce that the Board has engaged Carney, Sandoe & Associates (CS&A), a nationally recognized search firm with extensive experience in independent school leadership, to guide our search for Wilson Hall's ninth Head of School. We will work closely with consultants Jamie Estes and Allison Stiles, who bring considerable experience helping schools in the region identify leaders well matched to their communities and aspirations.

In consultation with CS&A, the Board of Trustees has appointed its Executive Committee to serve as the Search Committee: Ed Bynum, Dr. Linda Crabbe, Curtis Hutto, Bob Smith, and Lucy Grey McIver. After initial discussions with CS&A, the Search Committee learned that a typical Head of School search requires a year plus lead time to ensure the most qualified candidates are able to fulfill their obligations to their current schools while also offering their availability to engage in the interview process. Because we have a highly qualified interim in Eddie Talley, we agreed to follow the recommended approach and anticipated time frame.

As we begin this work, our priority is to conduct a thoughtful, inclusive search that reflects Wilson Hall's strengths, values, and hopes for the future. Working with CS&A, we will give faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and other community members opportunities to share their perspectives on the school and the qualities we should seek in its next leader. This input will help shape the position description and guide the Search Committee's work as we identify and evaluate prospective candidates. We are approaching this process with confidence and a commitment to finding the right leader for Wilson Hall.

Throughout the process, the Board will continue to keep the community informed of important developments. We also recognize that candidate confidentiality will be essential at certain stages, and we will balance that responsibility with our commitment to communicating openly about the progress of the search. Updates will be shared through the school's Head of School Search webpage.

Wilson Hall enters this transition from a position of strength, with record enrollment, a sound financial foundation, and optimism about its future. We are grateful to Brent for his continued leadership through the remainder of this school year, to Eddie for his willingness to lead during the interim year, and to our entire community for its support as we look toward the school's next chapter.

Sincerely,

Ed Bynum

Chair, Head of School Search Committee