



CHATHAM HALL

The Rector Search Timeline & Process

In an ever-changing and complex world, the importance of selecting a school's leader cannot be understated. As Chatham Hall enters the newest era in its long history, the Rector Search Committee embarked on the elaborate and vital task of finding and selecting a new Rector. The following timeline details the major project milestones of the process that led the School to who it believes will be a strong and committed Rector starting in the 2024-2025 school year.

May
Search
Consultant
Identified

The Rector Search Committee, which consisted of Trustees, faculty, alumnae, and parents, lead a comprehensive RFP process leading to the selection of The Education Group (TEG) to help conduct the search. The committee was impressed by TEG's experience in leadership searches, their collective understanding of independent and boarding schools, and their commitment to helping us create a collaborative and inclusive search process. Additionally, all three consultants, Katherine Stuart, Dennis Campbell, and Margaret Moore, have a deep understanding of Chatham Hall, our culture, and our region. TEG visited Chatham Hall to round out their understanding of our community and its needs in our next leader.

June
Community
Feedback
Collected

In June, the Rector Search Committee collected feedback from community members via surveys to determine what our constituents view as our most pressing needs in a Rector. The results and feedback were used to create a School & Position Profile to help promote the School to potential candidates. Constructive feedback and ideas from the Chatham Hall community were integral throughout the search process and eventual candidate selection.

July-October
Applications
Received

TEG spent several months actively developing a candidate pool for Chatham Hall. Applicants, both recruited and those who expressed independent interest, submitted their applications throughout the summer and into the fall. The applicant pool was very strong, and garnered interest from candidates across different areas of the country. TEG reviewed many formal applications for the role and presented the top candidates to the committee.

October
Finalists
Determined

The Rector Search Committee reviewed an impressive and diverse pool of candidates. Keeping in mind the future needs of Chatham Hall, the committee identified a long list of semi-finalists who were interviewed to narrow the pool down to three to meet in-person.

November
Finalist Campus
Visits & Rector
Selection

In November, the top three candidates visited Chatham Hall for meetings across two days with students, faculty, staff, and the Rector Search Committee. The meetings yielded invaluable information about each candidate and their visions for Chatham Hall. Following the campus visits, the committee provided the Board of Trustees with a recommendation for the next Rector and Sara Stephenson was unanimously appointed. Sara will begin at Chatham Hall on July 1, 2024.