

Candidate Two: Mr. TJ Mackey

Most recent role:

Head of School
The Well School
Peterborough, New Hampshire

Education:

Master of Science in Strength and Human Performance
Parker University

Master of Arts in Education Administration
Columbia University

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Minor in English
The Ohio State University



Background and experience:

The Well School – Peterborough, NH Head of School	2018 - 2024
Interlochen Center for Arts – Interlochen, MI Vice President	2014 - 2017
Ross School – East Hampton, NY Director of Residential Life	2012 - 2014
Seattle Country Day School – Seattle, WA Head of Middle School	2008 - 2012
Heritage Academy – Hilton Head Island, SC Assistant Head of School	2007 - 2008
Telluride Mountain School – Telluride, CO Assistant Head of School	2005 - 2007
College of the Atlantic – Bar Harbor, ME Admissions Counselor	2003 - 2004

Leadership Philosophy:

Growing up in Cincinnati, I learned early that meaningful journeys rarely follow straight paths. Like the winding roads to my New Hampshire home, my thirty-year career in education has curved, climbed, and descended through varied terrain, each experience shaping my understanding of what truly matters in school leadership. Now, as I consider returning to my hometown to serve as Head of School at Bethany, I bring not just professional expertise, but a deep personal connection to the community and a philosophy forged through decades of educational exploration.

My educational philosophy centers on a fundamental truth learned through years as a coach, teacher, and administrator: schools thrive when built upon authentic relationships. At Bethany, this means knowing each of our students not just as learners, but as whole human beings with unique gifts, challenges, and dreams. It means understanding our faculty not merely as instructors, but as passionate educators whose individual strengths contribute to our collective mission. Most importantly, it means recognizing that parents entrust us with their most precious gifts, and that trust must be honored through transparent communication and shared commitment to each child's growth.

Bethany's distinction as Ohio's only K-8 Episcopal school carries both privilege and responsibility. Our faith tradition calls us to see the divine spark in every child while challenging them to grow in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and neighbor. This dual commitment—to individual flourishing and communal responsibility—shapes how I approach educational leadership.

Bethany's strong foundation and beautiful campus provide stability, while the current transition offers opportunity to strengthen what works while thoughtfully addressing areas for improvement. This means reaffirming our academic excellence while enhancing student discipline through clear expectations rooted in our values. It means boosting teacher and staff morale by creating an environment where professional growth flourishes alongside personal fulfillment.

Returning to Cincinnati as Bethany's Head of School represents more than a career move—it's a homecoming with purpose. Having family and friends in the area means my investment in the school's success extends beyond professional responsibility to personal commitment. I understand the community Bethany serves because it's my community too.