



## New Hope Christian Academy

February 20, 2018

Dear Members of the New Hope Community,

On behalf of the Search Committee, we are very happy to announce that we have found an outstanding educator to lead New Hope Christian Academy and carry our vision forward. Lionel Cable, Jr. will join New Hope as Head of School in July 2018 after a 17-year career as an educator in Memphis City Schools and Shelby County Schools. He is currently an Instructional Leadership Director, supervising eight elementary principals in the Innovation Zone. He will work closely with New Hope's leadership and the Board to ensure a seamless transition into the 2018-19 school year.

Our search consultants from Carney, Sandoe, and Associates described our search as "highly successful by any measure." We had a great response, with over 40 candidates who expressed interest in the position. The consultants presented 14 dossiers to the search committee in December, and in January we interviewed 7 semi-finalists. We brought two finalists to campus for onsite interviews. Thank you to everyone for your help in the search process! The candidates were very positive about their interactions with the New Hope community, and everyone's commitment to the school was evident throughout.

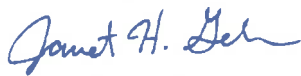
After prayerful consideration, many hours of interviews, and both formal and informal feedback, the Search Committee recommended Mr. Cable to the Board of Trustees for the Head of School position. The Board unanimously endorsed the recommendation, and he enthusiastically accepted. We are confident in his ability to lead New Hope into its next chapter, further our mission, and continue our legacy of teaching, learning, and discipleship.

It was immediately clear to the Committee that Mr. Cable has a Christ-centered approach to determining how best to use his talents in this world. The mission of New Hope resonates deeply with him, and he has extensive experience in urban education. The Committee was also impressed by Mr. Cable's dynamic leadership which made him an informal leader of leaders before he officially became an Instructional Leadership Director. During his time as Principal at Douglass, a public K-8 school, he accelerated student achievement gains in all TCAP subjects and achieved Reward School status two consecutive years. He authored and was awarded a \$1.4 million School Improvement Grant by the Tennessee Department of Education and negotiated partnerships with various businesses that resulted in a nationally recognized chess program. He's a lifelong learner with a Master's in School Leadership from the University of Memphis and an Educational Specialist Degree in Curriculum and Supervision from Union University.

The word humility came up over and over in the survey after his visit. One teacher summed it up very well, describing Mr. Cable's qualities – "the ability to listen, to empathize, to build relationships, and to exercise spiritual leadership, as well as to direct our school on a sustainable academic course that brings about student growth and teacher satisfaction." He believes that his role is to empower others to do their jobs effectively and creatively.

Lionel, his wife Tammy, and their two year old daughter Reese attend Bellevue Baptist Church, and they're very excited to join the New Hope family. We will have a reception later this spring for parents and teachers to meet and welcome them. Thank you for your prayers and support during our search, and we ask for your continued prayer and support during the transition.

Sincerely,



Janet H. Gerber  
Search Chair



J. Isaac Byrd  
Board Chair