



# Presidential Search Committee

Dear NOLS Community,

We hope this message finds you cool and dry or at least in striking distance of shelter from the summer's record breaking heat and rain. Throughout the spring and summer months, the search committee for NOLS's next president has been working in partnership with the team at Spencer Stuart. As co-chairs of the committee, we are grateful for the time and thoughtful contributions of our fellow [committee members](#), as well as Spencer Stuart's engagement with the NOLS community and outreach to potential candidates. We are pleased to report that the process is moving forward as planned.

Since we wrote to you in June, the search committee has met to discuss the backgrounds and experiences of many interested people, and this past week, the search committee began initial conversations with some of our top candidates. We will continue to engage with candidates throughout the summer and plan to gather in Boston in the fall for in-person meetings.

Our goal is to identify a president with *a passion for NOLS's mission and history and exceptional executive experience to lead the organization with clarity, courage, and a deep sense of purpose*. The process has also provided an opportunity for over 1,000 community members to share their thoughts on the capabilities, attributes, and experiences they hope to see in the person who assumes this both exciting and challenging position. Thank you to all those who offered their input on the [position statement](#), which is an excellent guide for the committee and candidates, alike. The search process has attracted leaders from a wide range of backgrounds including secondary and higher education, local and state government, health care, and the outdoor industry, each with a passion for experiential education, the environment and NOLS. The strength of these candidates is evident in the invaluable information they are sharing with the committee about the NOLS brand, its mission and innovative ways in which it can

extend its impact. As a committee, we are learning a lot and appreciate the generosity of these candidates.

There are many learnings in the process but one that has captured the committee's attention is how important NOLS is to these leaders from diverse backgrounds and experiences and by extension to all those they serve. It is inspiring to hear that these NOLS ambassadors feel a deep commitment, whether or not they are appointed to the position, to helping the School deliver its mission for current and future generations. We are fortunate, indeed.

We will be back in touch again as the process evolves.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Dignan and Jane Fried  
Co-Chairs of the Search Committee

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Dignan Danielle  
Board Member



Jane Fried  
Board Secretary