



HEAD OF SCHOOL SEARCH

Start Date: July 1, 2026

Princeton, New Jersey





Educators Collaborative is delighted to be assisting the French American School of Princeton (FASP) in their search for a Head of School to begin July 1, 2026. This is a fantastic opportunity for a French-speaking leader who believes in the power of bilingual and international education and is eager to guide the thriving community into the future.

About the School

Founded in 2000, the French American School of Princeton (FASP) is celebrating its 25th anniversary and has never been stronger. The school describes itself as “small, mighty, bilingual, and agile.” A nurturing and supportive environment for students, families, faculty, and staff, FASP is where children grow into curious learners and compassionate global citizens. Its preschool–Grade 8 French-English immersion program blends academic rigor with creativity, innovation, and joy in learning.

FASP is a close-knit, international community where each child is known, valued, and encouraged to thrive. Families describe the school as welcoming and supportive, with a warm, family-like atmosphere and a deeply dedicated staff. Parents consistently highlight the school’s sense of connection and belonging, and the joy that comes from seeing their children placed at the center of a truly global environment.

Many FASP families come from multilingual backgrounds and the school’s culture is both inclusive and anchored in its French-American identity. It is a community where diversity of language, perspective, and experience enriches learning every day.

This is an exceptional leadership opportunity for an educational visionary with strategic insight, cultural fluency, and a talent for uniting people around shared purpose. The next Head of School will steward FASP’s strong foundation, honor its bilingual mission, and shape a vibrant and sustainable future for this dynamic international community.



School at a Glance

- **Founded:** 2000
- **Type:** Non-profit, bilingual, multi-cultural, co-ed, independent day school
- **Grades:** Preschool-Grade 8
- **Enrollment:** 175 students
- **Divisions:** Maternelle (30 mo, PK, Kindergarten); Elementary (Grades 1-5); Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- **Different Countries Represented:** 30
- **Different Languages Spoken in the Community:** 20
- **Financial Aid:** 20% of students receive FA
- **Professional Affiliations:** AEFÉ, AFSA, MSA, NAIS, NJAIS, Princeton Common Ground

Vision

Cultivating the mind, nurturing the heart, and guiding the hand of every student to develop well-rounded global citizens prepared to take on the world.

Mission

The French American School of Princeton provides a nurturing and creative learning environment where students thrive because of our focus on academic excellence and the development of the whole child through an exemplary bilingual, multicultural education.



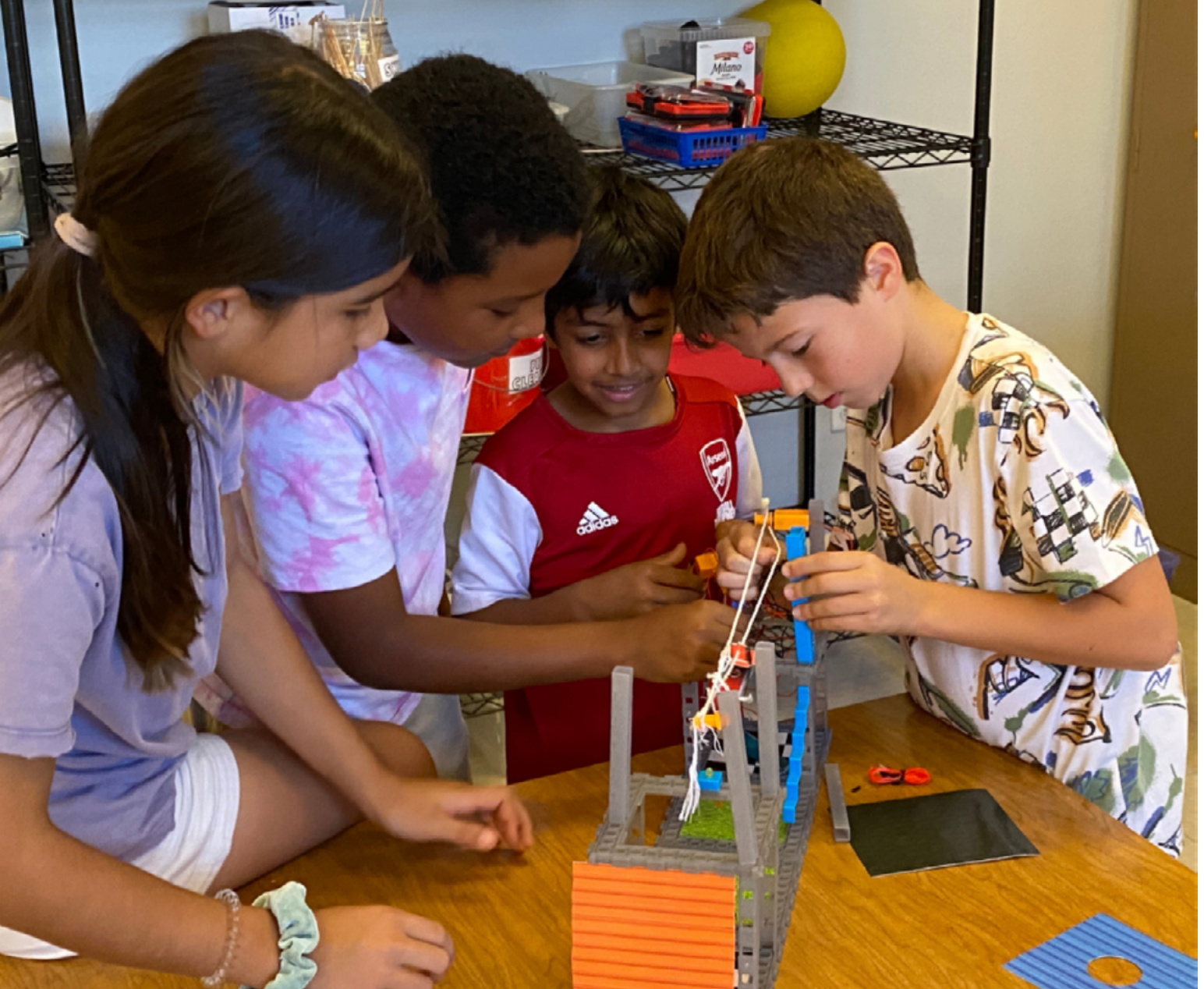
Location

FASP is located on a beautiful campus, on what was the St. Joseph Seminary, that it shares with another school. Princeton, New Jersey, is a vibrant and picturesque university town renowned for its rich history, intellectual energy, and strong sense of community. Home to Princeton University, the town offers a unique blend of cultural sophistication and small-town charm, with tree-lined streets, historic architecture, and a lively arts scene. The area is also home to a number of distinguished independent schools, providing a rich network of peers and opportunities for professional collaboration. Residents enjoy excellent schools, diverse dining, boutique shopping, and abundant recreational opportunities, all within easy reach of New York City and Philadelphia. For a Head of School, Princeton offers an inspiring environment where education, innovation, and community engagement thrive, making it an ideal place to lead and grow the French American School of Princeton.

School Finances

The expertise of the Board of Trustees, in partnership with a very experienced Head of School and seasoned Business Manager, results in strong financial management at FASP. The school is in an enviable debt-free position, and has cash reserves, but no endowment. Having recently completed a strategic plan, the school is now in the process of creating a long-range financial plan that will address operating and capital needs in the near and long term. FASP is highly tuition dependent and acknowledges that there is an opportunity to develop a fundraising program and other auxiliary revenue streams to diversify revenue and minimize the reliance on tuition revenue.

It is understood that COVID and the previous Head of School transition had negative impacts on the school's enrollment and finances. With the return of the Founding Head of School in 2022, however, FASP has seen a substantial improvement in enrollment, resulting in operating surpluses in recent years. The school is well insured and has an excellent tuition collection history. Annual audits have been performed without issue and without management letter comments.



A Distinctive Bilingual Journey from Early Childhood through Middle School

At the French American School of Princeton, students embark on a dynamic bilingual education that nurtures curiosity, creativity, and confidence from their earliest years through adolescence. Guided by dedicated, international educators and a curriculum that meets French Ministry of Education standards and is accredited by the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, FASP students grow into thoughtful, adaptable, and globally minded learners.

An Exceptional Early Start in Bilingual Education

The majority of FASP's students begin their enrollment in the school's Maternelle program (Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten), which provides a joyful and nurturing introduction to learning in both French and English. The dual-language curriculum builds a strong academic foundation while fostering creativity and curiosity. In the warm, multicultural setting, young learners are encouraged to explore, discover, and connect across cultures—developing a lifelong love of learning and the adaptability to thrive in an ever-changing world. You can learn more about Maternelle [here](#).



A Bilingual Foundation for Global Thinkers

In FASP's Elementary Program (Grades 1–5), students continue their bilingual journey in an environment that celebrates diversity and independent thought. Building on the foundation of Maternelle, children deepen their mastery of French and English through a rigorous, inquiry-based curriculum. Supported by caring teachers from around the world, students gain confidence as well as organizational and critical thinking skills, while developing respect for themselves and others. At FASP, language becomes the key to curiosity, self-expression, and global understanding—preparing every child to succeed anywhere in the world. You can learn more about the Elementary Program [here](#).

Preparing Confident, Global Learners

FASP's Middle School (Grades 6–8) supports students through the pivotal years between childhood and adolescence with challenge, care, and encouragement. In a supportive bilingual environment, students strengthen their academic skills, deepen their critical thinking, and grow as confident, compassionate individuals. Through a curriculum that bridges French and American educational traditions, FASP equips students to thrive in top international, American, and French schools—and to lead with resilience and purpose in a global society. You can learn more about the Middle School [here](#).



LEADERSHIP PROFILE

The Board of Trustees of French American School of Princeton is conducting an international search to identify its next Head of School. To that end and to assist them in clarifying the opportunities and challenges ahead, Carole Everett and George Sanderson, Partners at Educators Collaborative, surveyed the school community and visited the campus to collect input from members of the faculty, students, administration, staff, parents, and trustees. Based on this input and the impressions of the consultants, the following represents a summary of FASP's strengths and the challenges and opportunities it faces in the next three to five years, as well as the qualifications and attributes of the next Head of School.

Notable Strengths of the French American School of Princeton

Bilingual and Multicultural Education: FASP's distinctive integration of French and American educational systems offers a rich, culturally immersive experience that shapes students into global citizens. As a parent wrote, "We are proud to offer a dual education system—one that challenges students to think in two languages and thrive in two cultures."

Academic Rigor with Individualized Attention: Small class sizes and an 8:1 student-faculty ratio allow for personalized learning, fostering both academic excellence and student confidence.

Successful Graduates: FASP students excel in secondary school placement, with high schools praising their preparedness, resilience, and ability to thrive academically and socially.



Dedicated Faculty and Staff: The school's educators are deeply committed, blending expertise, care, and passion to nurture each child's growth. Faculty feel that the current Head of School is supportive and cares for them.

Strong Community: A diverse, inclusive environment celebrates languages, cultures, and heritage, creating a warm, student-centered school culture.

Parent Recognition and Support: Families value the school's rigorous yet nurturing approach, appreciating the balance of French academic discipline and American creativity.

Beautiful Campus Setting: The welcoming, well-maintained campus provides students with a space conducive to learning. The school has been at this location since 2011, providing stability.

Opportunities for the Next Head of School

- **Enrollment Growth:** FASP has enjoyed strong enrollment in recent years, yet Princeton's independent school market is highly competitive. Often described as a "hidden gem," FASP has an opportunity to further implement intentional outreach and thoughtful admissions strategies to sustain and grow enrollment. A particular challenge in accepting applicants to upper grades is the level of proficiency in French expected at entry.
- **Student Retention:** Attention to retention, particularly in the Middle School, will be key. Encouraging students to stay through eighth grade when they are the leaders in the school will strengthen the school's overall community continuity. A parent observed, "Our next Head will champion excellence, stability, and connection—ensuring that our talented teachers and diverse families grow and remain part of this community."



- **Transition:** The current Head of School is also the Founder. She seeks to make the transition a smooth one. A new Head who is in alignment and has overlap with the current Head will ensure a successful succession.
- **Fundraising and Advancement:** Philanthropy will play a vital role in supporting FASP's mission. Fundraising efforts need to be invigorated so that the school can be less tuition dependent and can raise an endowment. A collaborative partnership between the Head and Board will be essential in growing fundraising efforts and fostering a culture of generosity throughout the community.
- **Governance:** There is an opportunity to grow the Board and strengthen governance, ensuring the Board operates with best practices while remaining deeply aligned with the school's mission.
- **Faculty Recruitment and Retention:** The school's talented and dedicated faculty are at the heart of its success. The next Head of School will be central in attracting, supporting, and retaining exceptional international educators, ensuring FASP maintains the highest quality teaching and learning.
- **Strategic Plan:** The school has a strategic plan that requires re-visiting and refinement and planning on how to execute the goals in a realistic manner.
- **Visa Management:** Navigating the complexities and timing of international visas will require nimble leadership to secure and support faculty while sustaining instructional excellence.



Key Characteristics of the Next Head of School

The next Head of School at French American School of Princeton will be an experienced and passionate educator, proven community builder, and strong manager. The Head must be knowledgeable in both the French and American education systems and fluent in French. This position requires a hands-on leader committed to a visible presence, transparent communication, and authentic relationship development.

Key qualifications include:

- **Visionary Community Builder:** Engages authentically with students, families, faculty, and staff, fostering a warm, inclusive, and collaborative school culture. Must be committed to teamwork and working collaboratively with all constituents.
- **Academic and Operational Leadership:** Strong organizational skills with experience in independent schools, able to build efficient systems, and maintain the school's strong academic profile. Knowledgeable about best practices, including in Board of Trustee governance matters. Strong understanding of the French educational system is vital.
- **Financial Oversight:** Oversees and stewards the school's financial resources effectively, and communicates with the Board as fiduciaries in a transparent manner. Is an enthusiastic fundraiser and creative thinker about other possible revenue streams.
- **Faculty Recruitment and Retention:** Attracts, develops, and retains a talented and diverse faculty, nurturing excellence in teaching and learning.
- **Strategic Enrollment and Advancement:** Experienced in enrollment management, student retention, and fostering philanthropic support from parents, alumni, and the community.
- **Trustworthy and Thoughtful Leader:** Builds trust through consistency, transparency, and thoughtful decision-making, listening carefully while leading with clarity and purpose.
- **Motivational Presence:** Inspires dedication among faculty, enthusiasm among parents, and engagement across the school community.
- **Holistic Commitment to Students:** Demonstrates genuine care for children, championing their academic, social, and emotional growth.
- **Public and Cultural Engagement:** Acts as a visible ambassador for FASP in the Princeton community and beyond, communicating fluently in both French and English.
- **Personal Integrity and Resilience:** Brings warmth, humility, courage, and a broad intellect, combining strong and decisive leadership with a sincere interest in the lives of all members of the school community.



How to Apply

Applications are due by **15 November 2025**.

Candidates interested in the position are asked to submit the following materials in a **SINGLE** merged PDF document in this **exact** order:

- EC Summary Sheet (contact a consultant below for this document)
- Cover Letter Addressed to the Head of School Search Committee
- Résumé
- Educational Leadership Statement
- A list of five professional references with contact information including name, relationship to the candidate, phone, and email address
- EC Disclosure Form (contact a consultant below for this document)

Send applications via email to:

Carole Everett, Partner, Educators Collaborative
ceverett@educatorscollaborative.com

George Sanderson, Partner, Educators Collaborative
gsanderson@educatorscollaborative.com



75 Mapleton Road
 Princeton, NJ 08540
www.ecoleprinceton.org

Salary

The annual salary for the Head of School position is \$215,000-235,000. There is also a generous benefits package that includes health insurance and retirement contributions.

Search Calendar

(The following dates are projected dates)

- **Application Deadline:** 15 November 2025. Applicants are encouraged to submit full materials as soon as possible. Initial interviews with consultants are starting immediately.
- **Semi-Finalist Interviews** (virtually): December 2025
- **Finalist Interviews** (on campus): January 2026

The French American School of Princeton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law. This policy applies to, but is not limited to, educational policies, admission, financial aid, hiring and employment practices, use of school facilities, athletics, and other school-administered programs.

