

MERCY ACADEMY



Welcome to Mercy Academy!

As educators, we understand how important our role is in your student's life, and we never take this responsibility for granted. We realize you are trusting us with your most precious gift, and we are committed to helping her grow into a more confident and compassionate young woman. We will challenge her to experience things that are difficult and outside of her comfort zone, and we will encourage her to take risks, be imperfect and be vulnerable. We will ask her to be up for something bigger than herself, so that she is one day able to change the world.

As our Foundress, Mother Catherine McAuley of the Sisters of Mercy, said, "No work of charity can be more productive to the good of society than the careful instruction of young women."

At Mercy, we are dedicated to living out Catherine McAuley's vision every day. We believe that exceptionally educated women are the future of our world, and that, if instructed well, they will discover their passions and strengths to advance our society professionally, spiritually and systemically.

We provide our students with the best instructors, innovative technology and curriculum, paving the way for their successful futures. Our small class sizes allow our students and teachers to connect on a deeper level. The personalized attention each young woman receives allows her to showcase her individual strengths. Our 1:1 iPad program, Swivl Robots and other state-of-the-art technology provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary for college, and our performance-based curriculum pushes them to apply critical thinking and real-life problem-solving skills to all their coursework.

Not only are we able to provide this extraordinary college-preparatory curriculum, but we are proud to be able to do so in an environment that our students call their home away from home. Our Mercy family is unbreakable, and for that, we are extremely grateful.

In Mercy,



Becky Montague
Becky Montague,
President

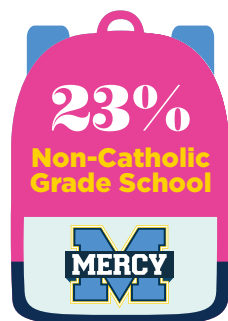


Sarah Peace
Sarah Peace
Principal

Quick Facts

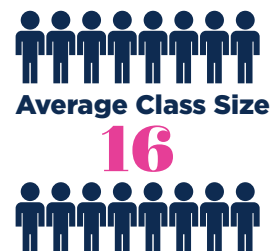


12:1 Student to Teacher Ratio



\$12,000,000

Awarded in College Scholarships
for the Class of 2020



Why Mercy?

Mercy is a Catholic school that welcomes young ladies of all faith backgrounds. We believe in educating and empowering young women to be successful well beyond their four years of high school. Our performance-based curriculum provides hands-on, real-world problem solving in a nurturing and faith-filled environment. Each student is encouraged to be herself and share her unique views to contribute to classroom collaboration. Our **caring teachers**, **state-of-the-art technology**, **small class sizes**, **beautiful campus** and **Christian values** make Mercy a comfortable environment for each student to learn.

CARING TEACHERS: Our caring teachers are one of the many reasons students love Mercy so much. They invigorate students to challenge themselves academically and achieve their full potential. Students describe their teachers as "compassionate, friendly, connected, approachable, helpful" and "like they could almost be their friends."

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY: At Mercy, students use a 1:1 iPad program, allowing for virtual learning and in-person learning to be synchronous. Students receive their iPads their freshman year and get to keep them when they graduate. This year, teachers also use Swivl Robots in order to allow students learning at home to actively participate in real-time in their classrooms.

COLLEGE-PREPARATORY CURRICULUM IN SMALL CLASSES:

In a student population of 500, each student receives personalized attention to showcase her individual strengths. Our average class size is 16 students, which allows teachers to engage each student in each class. Our college-prep curriculum provides opportunities for students to excel in all areas of interest, including four-year STEM and fine arts programs.

24-ACRE CAMPUS: Mercy's beautiful 24-acre campus is centrally located and has everything students need. Students enjoy all the amenities our campus has to offer, such as athletic facilities, STEM Innovation Center, Wellness Center, chapel and more.

Our Mission

The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, founded on the vision of Catherine McAuley and sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, exists to serve young women by:

- † Providing a quality Catholic education within a caring faith community;
- † Offering an academic curriculum which provides opportunities for all learners to excel;
- † Empowering young women to be responsible leaders in service to others;
- † Offering the opportunity to build a sense of community with students of diverse abilities and backgrounds;
- † Providing academic and real-life experiences that prepare them for life and work in an age of rapid change.

Academic Levels

At Mercy, we develop each student to her greatest potential by providing her with an environment for maximum growth, at a level commensurate with her individual abilities. We offer six academic course levels to benefit students from all levels of learning.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)	College-level course with the opportunity to earn college credits for students with high abilities and strong desires for challenging work.
DUAL CREDIT (DC)	Advanced coursework that allows students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit through exposure to intellectually demanding tasks and instruction.
ADVANCED	Independent and fast-paced classroom that focuses on conceptualization and critical thinking skills.
HONORS I	Rigorous college-prep curriculum that challenges students considering advanced or AP coursework in the future.
HONORS 2	Individualized college-prep curriculum that challenges students to meet the demands of the 21 st century by focusing on collaboration and problem solving.
ACADEMIC	Highly structured and individualized classroom experience that emphasizes content mastery.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CLASSES

Mercy is proud to offer 19 AP classes students can begin taking as early as their sophomore year for the opportunity to earn college credit.

- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Computer Science Principles
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature
- French Language
- Music Theory
- Physics I
- Psychology
- Spanish Language
- Spanish Literature
- Statistics
- Studio Art
- US Government
- US History

DUAL CREDIT (DC) CLASSES

Mercy is proud to offer 13 DC classes students can begin taking their junior year to earn college credit.

- Advanced Accounting
- Business Communications
- College Algebra
- English 101
- English 102
- French 132
- French 201
- Introduction to Law
- Pre-Calculus
- Spanish 123
- Spanish 201
- Speech
- World Religions

MERCY SCHOLAR DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The Mercy Scholar Diploma Program is an opportunity for gifted students to continue their studies outside the classroom. The program requires students to maintain a 3.8 GPA, take a minimum of three AP classes, attend two fine arts events each year, and complete service hours.

Each month, students meet with a guest speaker, who is a distinguished expert in his or her field. At the end of her sophomore year, the Mercy scholar has the opportunity to choose an independent study with the guidance of a faculty or community member. She then presents her research and thesis paper at the end of her senior year.



ACADEMIC SERVICES PROGRAM

This after-school program provides additional academic support to struggling learners in an encouraging and structured environment.

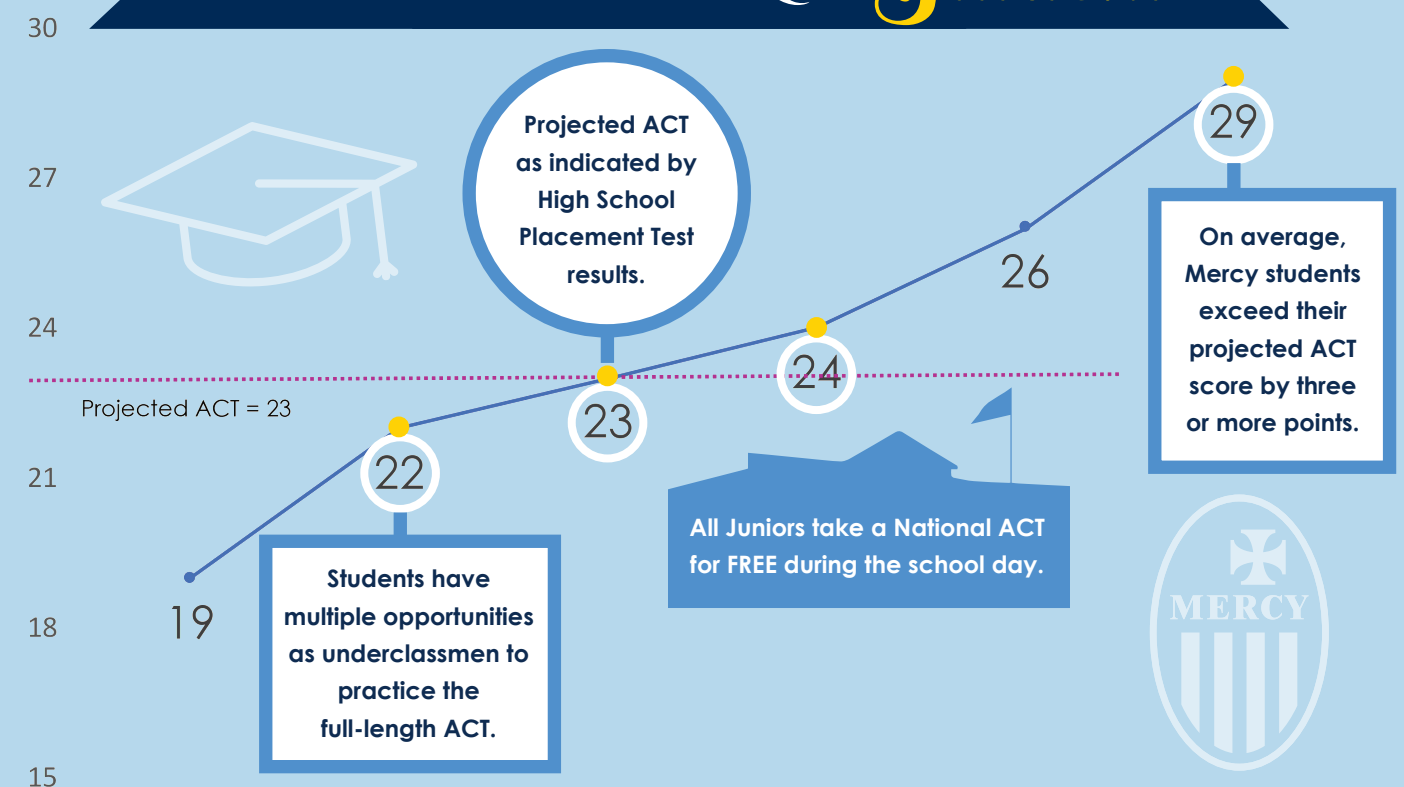
Teachers or counselors may refer students to our academic interventionists for individualized learning plans that incorporate personalized learning goals and tutoring services. Parental permission and support are necessary for acceptance into this program. To learn more, please contact Andrea Peavler at apeavler@mercyjaguars.com or call (502) 671-2010 ext. 2243.

LEARNING DIFFERENCES PROGRAM

The Learning Differences Program is designed to meet the individual needs of students and support them in reaching their full academic and personal potential. Students with learning differences work with the same counselor, Dr. Amanda Ables, all four years they are at Mercy. For more information, please contact Dr. Ables at aables@mercyjaguars.com or call (502) 671-2010 ext. 2321.



ACT PROGRESS OF A MERCY Student





STEM Program

As the nation's first all-girls accredited **STEM** school, Mercy prepares students for an in-demand, male-dominated **STEM** job market by exposing them to fields that most do not experience until college.

STEM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Compose independent biology research projects, and travel internationally to perform experiments in the field.
- Conduct forensic investigations, simulate infectious disease testing, and practice genetic screening with DNA equipment.
- Create and program autonomous vehicles capable of executing hypothetical search and rescue missions.
- Debate privacy law while designing, building and coding fully functional drones.
- Design, develop and create 3-D-printed therapeutic toys in consultation with pediatric occupational therapists.
- Explore biomaterials and medical advances by replicating surgical procedures.
- Serve as mentors in the community, teaching middle school girls about STEM principles.
- Study next generation prosthetics using 3-D bio-printers and design software.
- Uncover never-before-seen waterways and marine wildlife utilizing submersible robots.



STEM Partners:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| • Air Force Association | • General Electric | • Louisville Metro Office of Performance Improvement & Innovation |
| • Advanced Renewable Materials Biochemical Engineering Lab | • Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana | • Mammoth Cave |
| • Army Corps of Engineers | • J.B. Speed School of Engineering | • Metropolitan Sewer District |
| • Bellarmine University | • Jewish Hospital | • National Parks Department |
| • Bowman Field Air+Space Academy | • Kentucky Girls STEM Collaborative | • University of Kentucky |
| • Dow Corning | • Kentucky Science Center | • University of Louisville |
| • Falls of the Ohio State Park | • Louisville Gas & Electric | • Western Kentucky University |

Fine Arts

Mercy's **FINE ARTS** department fosters the growth of creative minds with all levels of experience. Our exceptional teachers work one-on-one with each student to improve her skills in 2-D and 3-D art, graphic design, theatre arts, choral music and creative writing.

ART PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Attend and perform at the International Thespian Festival as the designated Kentucky Chapter Select.
- Collaborate with classmates to create a permanent mural in the school.
- Compete in the annual Derby Art Museum contest, and display winning artwork in public exhibits.
- Compose 10-minute original plays to be performed and published by Actors Theatre of Louisville.
- Contribute to theatre productions with behind-the-scenes work in set design, costumes and makeup.
- Create musical arrangements and accompaniments for theatre and vocal performances.
- Participate in a state-wide a cappella competition, and work alongside professional artists.
- Perform a self-written and self-directed play at the acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland.
- Produce a nationally-ranked literary magazine, composed of remarkable artwork and literature.



Facilities



INDOOR:

- Chapel
- STEM Innovation Center
- Sister Prisca Achievement Center
- Wellness Center
- Theatre
- Mac Lab
- Dance Studio
- Two Gymnasiums
- Fitness & Weight Room
- Athletic Training Room
- Softball Batting Cages
- Home & Away Locker Rooms

OUTDOOR:

- 24 Acres
- On-Campus Parking
- Synthetic Turf Field
- Eight-Lane Track
- Bermuda Grass Training Field
- One-Mile Training Loop
- Six Tennis Courts
- Softball Field
- Softball Batting Cages
- Home & Away Locker Rooms
- Outdoor Eating Space
- Outdoor Learning Areas

MERCY IS PROUD TO OFFER 15 SPORTS OVER THREE ATHLETIC SEASONS:

Fall:

Cross Country
Field Hockey
Golf
Soccer
Volleyball



Winter:

Archery
Basketball
Bowling
Cheerleading
Dance
Swimming



Spring:

Lacrosse
Softball
Tennis
Track & Field



Last year, Mercy had over
50 dual-sport athletes!



Involvement is an integral part of the Mercy experience. Participating in clubs and/or athletic teams allows for students to connect with their classmates outside the classroom. With so many options, there are opportunities for every student, and if there is a club a student would like to start, she can do that too.

Clubs:

- Alive in Mercy
- Ambassadors
- Art Club
- Big Sis/Little Sis
- Book Club
- Class Officers
- Culinary Club
- Diversity Club
- Drama Productions
- Fashion Club
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Future Problem Solving
- Glee
- Governor's Cup
- Intramural Sports
- International Thespian Society
- Jags Animal Care Society
- KUNA
- KYA
- Liturgy Planning Committee
- Make Mercy Real
- Mercy Scholars
- Mercy Strong
- Mock Trial
- Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society)
- National Art Honor Society
- National Business Honor Society
- National English Honor Society
- National French Honor Society
- National Honor Society
- National Science Honor Society
- National Spanish Honor Society
- Outdoor Club
- Peer Leaders
- Pep Club
- Photography
- Quick Recall
- Rho Kappa (Social Studies Honor Society)
- Stilettones A Capella Group
- Student Council
- Underwater Research Team

Involvement



Travel Opportunities

Mercy offers many opportunities for students to become global learners. Travel experiences are offered for STEM research, service, language-immersion and pleasure! A few travel experiences students love include the senior trip to New York City, the Argentina Exchange Program and the Costa Rica Research Trip.



Student Success

SISTER PRISCA ACHIEVEMENT CENTER (PAC)

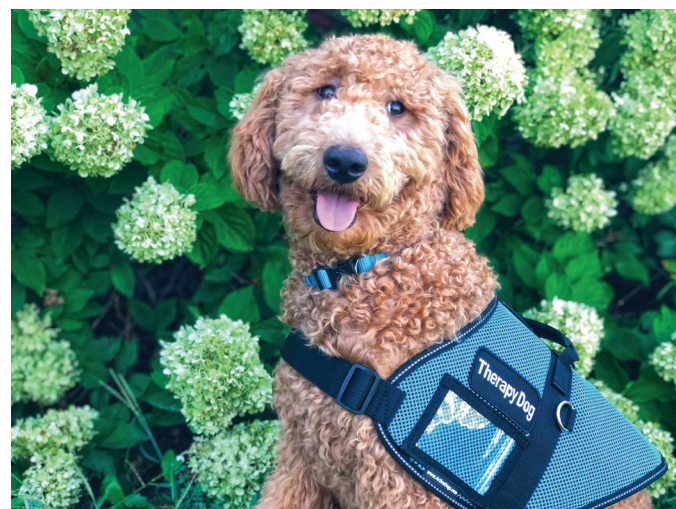
The PAC provides support to all students in every subject area and at any academic level. It is staffed with two expert interventionists and is designed to model collegiate learning and growth resource labs. It is equipped with modern resources that meet the unique needs of each learner. The PAC is open before, during and after school every day, and is especially resourceful for assistance in literacy and math. To learn more, please contact Andrea Peavler at apeavler@mercyjaguars.com or call (502) 671-2010 ext. 2243.



WELLNESS CENTER

The Wellness Center is a tech-free space designed for short-term stress-reducing practices. Over the past few years, it has become increasingly apparent that teenagers struggle with anxiety, stress and other factors which can keep them from focusing in the classroom. In response to this, Mercy Academy designed a Wellness Center to allow students a space for stress management and self-meditation.

This space offers resources for mindfulness, self-reflection and self-coping skills. Students are able to engage in activities such as deep breathing, silent reflection and goal setting, mindfulness exercises and guided meditation. The center features a relaxing environment with a variety of tools that focus on identifying goals and emotions, recognizing strengths, and promoting self-confidence, self-efficacy and accurate self-perception.



GUIDANCE COUNSELORS & THERAPY DOG

Each student has two assigned counselors each year she is at Mercy: a **personal wellness counselor** and an **academic success coach**. Students work with the same wellness counselor all four years in order to build trust and rapport. Their academic success counselor changes between their sophomore and junior year, shifting the focus to also include aiding students through the college admissions process.

Ryder is Mercy's full-time, hypoallergenic, certified therapy dog. He is part of our counseling team, and students are encouraged to pet him as a way to relieve stress, calm nerves, and bring them happiness.

TECHNOLOGY

Mercy ensures students are prepared to succeed in today's world by introducing them to state-of-the-art technology in their classrooms. Every student receives an iPad when she is a freshman, uses it all four years, and keeps it after she graduates. Our 1:1 iPad program allows for quick access and easy organization of textbooks, notes and class materials.

We introduced Swivl Robots this year, which allows teachers to live stream students at home into the classroom to participate with their classmates who are on campus. Swivl Robots are voice activated and move with the teacher, providing the most realistic classroom experience in live-streaming.



SERVICE LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

With Mother Catherine McAuley as their model, Mercy students are transformed into empowered, active citizens, leaders and life-long servants of Christ through our nationally recognized, four-year service learning and leadership program. Students are called to be leaders who act for justice in our community through **direct action**, by addressing immediate needs in our community, and **social action**, by addressing root causes of injustice to bring about long-term systemic change.

FRESHMAN YEAR, students participate in four days of immersion experiences designed to uncover causes and potential solutions to issues that plague our society.



AS SOPHOMORES, they partner with local agencies over eight weeks to learn the stories of those most vulnerable in our community in order to better understand how their needs can be directly addressed. Students learn that forming relationships is the foundation of true justice work.

JUNIORS learn about the complex nature of systems, social analysis and the difficulties of systemic change. They tour local agencies focused on an area of injustice to examine how they approach the root causes of the issue. Then, students meet with legislators in Frankfort to discuss how to bring about the long-term change necessary for our community to thrive.



OUR SENIORS are equipped with all of the tools needed to create a lasting impact in the community by developing and implementing action plans specifically focused on the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy such as poverty, immigration, anti-racism, nonviolence, environmental justice and women's issues. Through a collaborative approach, students practice real-world leadership skills in strategic planning, needs assessment, marketing and financial planning to create a year-long service project.



Retreats

Our retreat program provides each student with a unique opportunity to share her faith in a trusting Christian community. She enriches her awareness of God, self, family and relationships. She does this through activities, personal reflections and talks shared by alumnae and faculty.

Freshman year, all students participate in retreat as a part of their Freshman Activities Days. Each freshman focuses on transitioning to high school: embracing past experiences from grade school, but readying herself to jump into the experience of high school as a Mercy girl.

Sophomores focus on their gifts, skills, talents and passions. Each student focuses on how her unique gifts play a role in how she responds to the critical concerns in the world.

Juniors explore the changes and challenges of relationships. Each junior self-reflects on her transition to young adulthood and focuses on how the relationships she has with her family and friends may grow, change and mature.

Senior year, students deepen their relationships with God through Christian Awakening. Each senior learns the importance of integration needed to foster authentic encounters with all of God's creation in preparation for the next chapter of her life.



Tuition and Fees

Tuition is \$13,400 for the 2020-2021 school year.

There is no finance charge or interest on any of our tuition payment plans.

TUITION PAYMENT PLANS

● 1 Payment:	Due July 15	\$13,400
● 3 Payments:	Due July 15	\$4,467
	Due October 15	\$4,467
	Due February 15	\$4,367
● 11 Payments:	Due June - April	\$1,218

Mercy Academy partners with FACTS Management Company for those with 11 tuition payments. Payments to FACTS may be scheduled for the 5th or 20th of each month.

SISTERS' DISCOUNT

Families with more than one student attending Mercy at the same time receive 15% off the oldest daughter's tuition.

FEES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration Fee	\$125
Athletic Fee (Athletes Only) – Paid once each year	\$100
Books – Purchased online through MBS or iTunes	

iPAD DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Mercy requires all students to purchase an iPad through the school. The cost of the iPad is as follows:

iPad with four-year AppleCare Protection	\$508
Deposit paid at registration	(\$100)
Balance: paid with tuition payments	\$408

- 1 Payment: add \$408 to payment
- 3 Payments: add \$136 to each tuition payment
- 11 Payments: add \$37 to each tuition payment

*After the iPad balance is paid in full, the student owns her iPad.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

We invite all parents who feel they may qualify for financial aid to submit an online application to our third party processor, FACTS Management Company.

NEED-BASED AID

Tuition Grant Money:

This pool of money comes from Archdiocesan support, the Mercy Fund and special fundraising events.

Mercy Day Scholarships:

Incoming and current students can apply for one of our 32 Mercy Day Scholarships. They are awarded in May for the upcoming school year and are based on financial need.

MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Placement Test Scholars:

Students who obtain high scores on the high school placement test are eligible to receive a four-year renewable scholarship.

- 1st place: \$3,000
- 2nd place: \$2,500
- 3rd place: \$2,000
- All students in the 90th percentile: \$1,000

How to apply for financial aid:

1. Complete the online FACTS financial aid form accessible by the link provided on Mercy's website under Tuition and Financial Aid.
2. Register your daughter to attend Mercy on Tuesday, February 23.
3. Submit the online financial aid form to FACTS Management Company.
4. Receive your financial aid notification letter in May.

Steps to Enrollment

1 SCHEDULE A VISIT TO CAMPUS

Visiting Mercy is a great way to experience our family-like atmosphere in a spacious and modern campus. During your visit, you will see our uniquely designed classrooms, STEM Innovation Center, state-of-the-art theatre, on-campus athletic facilities and more. Go to www.mercyacademy.com/visit or call (502) 671-2010 to schedule your visit to campus.

2 ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE

Join us at our Open House on **Sunday, November 15** from **12:00-4:00 p.m.** This is a wonderful opportunity to see our campus, meet current students, and speak with our faculty, administrators and coaches.

3 TAKE THE HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

All eighth graders who wish to attend Mercy take the placement test on **Saturday, December 12** at **9:00 a.m.** Students should come to Mercy with two #2 pencils for the test.

4 RECEIVE AN ACCEPTANCE LETTER

After Mercy receives the placement test scores and information from middle schools, a letter regarding acceptance is mailed on **Tuesday, February 9.**

5 REGISTER TO BE A JAGUAR

Attend Freshman Registration Night on **Tuesday, February 23** from **5:30-8:00 p.m.**

MEET OUR ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT!

Emily Carnall McCullough

Director of Admissions

Emily is available to guide each Future Jaguar family through their entire enrollment process. She answers any questions about tuition and financial aid, the registration process and the overall transition to high school. Please email ecarnall@mercyjaguars.com or call (502) 671-2010 ext. 2301 to reach her.



Paige Stewart

Enrollment Coordinator

Paige works with Future Jaguar students to help them know if Mercy is the right fit for them. She introduces them to current students and teachers, and she answers any questions they may have about the Mercy experience. Please email pstewart@mercyjaguars.com or call (502) 671-2010 ext. 2300 to reach her.

MERCY ACADEMY *Bus Service*

We are proud to offer five bus routes with 24 stops that spread across the greater Louisville area!

Mercy Academy and DeSales High School provide a joint bus service through Miller Transportation.

The bus service is \$750 per student, per year for round-trip service, or \$400 for one-way service. Sibling discounts are available.

If you have any questions, please contact **Stephanie Heitz** at sheitz@mercyjaguars.com or **(502) 671-2010**. *Additional stops considered.

