

St. Mary's Academy Portland, Oregon

PRINCIPAL SEARCH



St. Mary's Academy is looking for an experienced academic leader to join our dynamic community. Founded in 1859 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and located in Portland, Oregon, St. Mary's provides a challenging college-preparatory education in a vibrant, all-girls Catholic learning environment. The school is seeking its next Principal who will serve and inspire the generation of women leaders, with a deep commitment to the school's mission to nurture the whole person. Building upon the school's rich 164-year history, the ideal candidate will bring integrity, compassion, passion for all-girls education and strong leadership acumen to all they do.

Role of the Principal

The Principal will provide leadership and administration to motivate faculty and staff to deliver an exceptional student experience. This individual will focus on creating the best possible opportunities for student growth and development – educationally, spiritually and culturally. The ideal candidate will draw on their experience to create signature programs of excellence, ultimately driving enrollment and establishing St. Mary's as a nationally recognized all-girls Catholic high school.

The Principal is responsible for bringing innovative ideas to the table with the intent to develop and evolve academic programming, elevate wellness and athletic programming for young women, and keep up with trends and insights that will help prepare students for the future. This person will also be responsible for ensuring strong programming around women's leadership and elevating the female voice in support of the school's mission.

The Principal is a steward for learning among students, parents, faculty and staff. Responsible for creating and upholding a warm, hospitable community, the Principal will also provide a clear vision, inspiration and insight for all stakeholders. The ideal candidate will be attentive to habits of mind, data driven decision-making, accountability, conflict resolution and team building.

The Principal works collaboratively with the President and the Administration team pertaining to school programs, culture, spirituality, policies, and procedures. They have a set of beliefs and skills that guide the school in day-to-day operations to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all students, faculty, staff and families. Putting student learning at the center of all we do, while orchestrating a complex and collaborative learning community, is a necessary area of aptitude to be successful in this role.



Our Mission

Founded in 1859 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, St. Mary's is Oregon's oldest continuously operating all-girls high school. As a Catholic high school for young women, St. Mary's provides a challenging college-preparatory education in a vibrant learning environment. Guided by the values and charism of the Sisters, St. Mary's fosters a diverse community, educates the whole person by nurturing spirituality, encouraging creativity, promoting justice, and inspiring a sense of global interdependence to prepare students for service and leadership.

Qualifications

- A practicing Catholic with a commitment to ongoing formation, spiritual leadership and a dedication to education in the Catholic faith
- Previous experience in leadership at a secondary school or college with the ability to speak to the school's mission, lead a diverse team of faculty and staff, and interact with parents, students, board members, a wide range of stakeholders and the general community
- Dedication to the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary's mission of the education of future women leaders as well as the ability to articulate the mission and values of the school and how the SNJM identity guides them
- A demonstrated commitment to equitable practices focused on systemic change in a school setting
- A dedicated practice of furthering their own diversity, equity, and inclusion learning and growth
- The ability to inspire and motivate students, faculty, staff and families
- Exceptional communication, interpersonal skills and a high level of integrity
- A commitment to self-reflection and continuous improvement
- Energy, enthusiasm, and warmth – the ability to relate well to all individuals
- Master's Degree in Education Administration
- Oregon Administrative Certification

Salary & Benefits

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. A comprehensive benefits package is included.

Areas of Responsibility

- Spiritual leadership
- Living our mission, vision and charism
- Leading systems change
- Improving teaching and learning
- Creating signature programs of excellence
- Leading with integrity and professionalism
- Fostering and sustaining a culture of high expectations



About St. Mary's Academy

Educating young women for nearly 165 years, St. Mary's Academy is Oregon's premier all-girls high school and the oldest continuously operating school in the state. Founded by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, St. Mary's Academy delivers a Catholic, college-preparatory education for young women in grades 9-12.

Guided by the values and charism of the Sisters, St. Mary's fosters a diverse community and educates the whole person by nurturing spirituality, encouraging creativity, promoting justice, and inspiring a sense of global interdependence to prepare students for service and leadership. St. Mary's students achieve, excel and are recognized locally, regionally and nationally in academic fields, the arts, athletics, community services and extra- and co-curricular activities.

St. Mary's Academy students affirm research conclusions that a single-sex environment empowers young women to excel as students and leaders. Recent research from the National Coalition of Girls Schools confirms that young women who attend all-girls schools demonstrate greater academic achievement, score higher on college admissions tests, have higher confidence in STEM subject areas, including mathematics and computer skills, and generally feel more confident and empowered.

At St. Mary's Academy, unique, confident women leaders are not the exception to the rule - they're everyone you meet. Since 1859, when a group of passionate Sisters founded a school for women when none like it existed, St. Mary's has always been a place that nurtures extraordinary women leaders.



Application Procedure

Interested and qualified candidates should submit electronically a letter of introduction, a resume, and five professional references including names, email addresses and telephone numbers (references not contacted without candidate's permission).

The application closing date for this position is June 1, 2023. Applicants are considered immediately upon submission of a complete candidate packet.

Send application materials to: St. Mary's Academy, Human Resources Department at personnel@smapdx.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Kari Forrer, Director of Human Resources, at 503.721.7740.



[Click here for school profile](#)

[Click here for "What makes an SNJM school"](#)

[Click here to view complete principal job description](#)



DEI Statement

Celebrate diversity. Cultivate inclusion. Promote equity. Prepare to change the world.

St. Mary's Academy, guided by the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and Catholic values, is committed to being a diverse community in which all members are safe, respected, valued, and they feel that they belong. Excellence must include promoting a diverse learning environment that affirms diversity, equity and inclusion, and fosters intellectual, social and emotional growth for all.