



St. Mary's Academy
MAGNIFY THE LORD

President

SEARCH PROSPECTUS



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

FAYETTEVILLE, GA

www.smaschool.org

START DATE - IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY



Core Values

Magnifying:

- Virtuous living
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Servant Leadership
- Academic Excellence
- Intentional Discipleship

ABOUT

St. Mary's Academy is the first archdiocesan PreK – 12 Catholic School. In 2000, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School opened its doors to students in grades 9 – 12. The Archbishop of Atlanta and the Catholic Schools Superintendent collaborated on a new vision for Our Lady of Victory and Our Lady of Mercy Schools that resulted in St. Mary's Academy. Families could now enroll all their children under one roof and enabled teachers and coaches to coordinate activities across the entire PreK – 12 educational spectrum.

St. Mary's Academy educates students to become Christ-centered, global-minded students positioned to pursue and achieve personal and professional goals for the 21st century. Students learn through inquiry-based processes, allowing teachers to build on each child's curiosity. In this student-centered approach, teachers help students create a framework of questioning so that through investigating scenarios, data analysis, and the communication of findings, they increase information-processing skills and intellectual engagement.

St. Mary's Academy is accredited by and meets the standards of Cognia, the parent company of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Teachers maintain valid certification/teaching credentials. Students at all levels receive instruction in the core subjects of religion, literacy/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, as well as electives and enrichment programs.

FAST FACTS



100%

College acceptance rate
Class of 2022



19:1

Average student to
teacher ratio



\$6.1M

Scholarships awarded
Class of 2022

Mission

Through integrating academic and formative efforts, St. Mary's Academy provides a unique Catholic learning experience and college-prep education that equips our students to be Christ-centered, life-long learners and global-minded productive members of their communities. Inspired by our Catholic pedagogical traditions, we place the individual learner at the center of the learning process – body, mind, and soul.

Vision

To partner with parents to prepare our students to lead successful, rewarding lives - firm in faith, strong in knowledge, joyful in hope, and active in charity.

Advisory Council

The mission of the St. Mary's Academy Advisory Council is to further the advancement of a quality Catholic education for the students attending SMA by providing leadership, advice, assistance and support to the Principal. Its authority is derived from the Archbishop of Atlanta, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Archdiocesan School Advisory Council.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

After receiving a Catholic education at St. Mary's, students are emboldened to answer the call to holiness and become change agents in every endeavor they pursue.

Spiritual life at St. Mary's Academy allows students to grow in faith, explore their interests, and feel safe, accepted, and encouraged. Faculty challenge students to integrate the values of Jesus Christ and the sacraments into their everyday lives. Service and outreach programs allow students to understand the importance of becoming servant leaders in their communities. As a result, graduates leave as compassionate individuals who respect other cultural and personal perspectives.

As a Catholic school, St. Mary's gives special attention to ensure that all academic and formative efforts integrate in such a way that the light of Christ's teaching illuminates everything students learn. The religious dimension of the school is expressed through the celebration of Christian values in Word and Sacrament, service to others, and in a community animated by faith, hope, and charity.

Lower School students serve the local community through age-appropriate service and works of mercy projects. These projects focus on the material and physical needs of the hungry, poor, homeless, sick, and less fortunate.

An interdisciplinary Campus Ministry team of faculty and staff collaborates to plan, implement, and assess spiritual life programming at St. Mary's Academy.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

At St. Mary's Academy, we educate our students to become Christ-centered, global-minded students positioned to pursue and achieve personal and professional goals for the 21st century. Your child will learn through inquiry-based processes, allowing our teachers to build on each student's curiosity. In this student-centered approach, our teachers help your child create a framework of questioning so that through investigating scenarios, data analysis, and the communication of findings, your child can increase information-processing skills and intellectual engagement.

SMA follows the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta curriculum standards for all subject areas. Standards adhere to State and in many cases national standards, preparing students to thrive in a rapidly changing world. As part of a comprehensive PK-12 curriculum framework, students graduate from SMA with the tools they need to meet the challenges of high school and beyond.

Elementary School: PreK - 3rd Grades

The primary and early elementary years are times when students begin forming friendships for the first time. It is also where a child will become excited about being in a class with his/her peers to learn and play. The school employs a curriculum that develops each child's academic, cognitive, and physical behavior. St. Mary's develops life-long learners who are excited to learn.

Elementary School: 4th- 5th Grades

At SMA, students build strong executive functioning skills. Teachers help students develop organization, note-taking, planning skills, and setting goals and objectives. Students develop academic stamina and begin to apply it to long-term problem-solving skills. Through challenging Socratic seminars, they start to argue more than one side of an issue. St. Mary's students explore ideas, meaning, and information found in text. Teachers facilitate insightful discussions about the text they read, making text-to-text, text-to-world, and text-to-self



FAST FACTS



329

Total students on campus



169

High school students



\$2M+

Annual financial aid awarded



connections.

Middle School: 6th - 8th Grades

SMA understands the unique challenges facing middle school students. The school takes advantage of students' new ability to memorize information more easily in the classroom. Middle school students are learning to be flexible thinkers, and our faculty help our students learn to change approaches when needed. They work with students to build grammar and vocabulary knowledge, write from personal experiences, and work with what-if scenarios to solve problems.

High School: 9th - 12th Grades

Students typically take five core classes and two electives, allowing them to explore subjects of interest. In addition, distinguished teachers work with students in Honors and AP courses to tackle the coursework challenges. AP courses are college-level courses that culminate with an AP Exam offered by the College Board and may count for college credit.

- College-prep, AP, & Honors classes
- Liberal Arts & Classical Studies track
- On-campus dual enrollment
- STEM electives
- Languages: Spanish and French
- PSAT prep and testing (9th - 11th grades)

SMA's College Counseling Department provides a proactive, comprehensive, and developmentally appropriate program to address students' academic and career goals. This is accomplished through a partnership with parents/guardians, staff, and community members to enable all students to become

FAST FACTS



56

Middle school students



104

Elementary school students



58

Supporting faculty and staff

successful, productive citizens and lifelong learners in a diverse and changing world.

The College Admissions Process focuses on how to evaluate options, how to reflect on the past, and how to submit applications. There is no shortcut to being admitted to college and no way to achieve the desired outcome without some time, effort, patience, and thought.

STEM Center for Innovation

The SMA Center for Innovation is a vital facet of the school community. It brings students together through a hive of connected spaces as a community of artists, scientists, innovators, explorers, readers, and learners. The Center for Innovation is home to the media center, collaborative workspaces, conference room, and two Innovative Learning Labs to host maker spaces, digital media, and gaming/e-sports interests.

Media Center

The Media Center is housed within the Center For Innovation. It is a gathering place for reading classes, research, and collaboration. The Media Center houses more than 8,000 volumes, periodicals, reference sources, and two databases through Ebsco.

The mission of the Library Media Center Program is to support the school curriculum through a variety of resources, to educate students and staff on becoming effective users of ideas, information, and literature, and to nurture a love for lifelong reading.

THE ARTS

St. Mary's celebrates the Arts. The Arts change the learning environment into





MOTTO

Magnify the Lord

one of self-discovery and help students connect with each other. Research supports that when the Arts are integrated into learning, students have enhanced learning experiences and achievement as well as more positive social outcomes in school. Teachers of the Arts are trained in understanding the Arts as disciplines of study. The Arts expand the boundaries of learning for students and encourage creative thinking. Students are able to get involved in the Arts through both course selection and extra-curricular activities.

Mission

The Arts expand the minds of students in ways beyond reading and writing. At SMA we do not teach about the Arts. We teach through the Arts.

Goal

St. Mary's program of the Arts aims to increase a student's critical and creative thinking skills, self-esteem, willingness to take risks, and ability to work with others through the exploration and involvement of fine and performing arts.

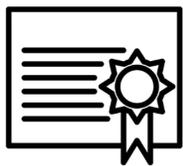
ATHLETICS

St. Mary's Academy offers a competitive GIAA (Georgia Independent Athletic Assoc.) Class AAA, District 6 athletic program that plays a vital role in supporting the school's mission. The athletic department cultivates an environment that emphasizes hard work, servant leadership, and integrity while maintaining a Christ-centered mindset in a safe and supportive environment for all. St. Mary's Academy's pride is rooted in athletic teams that are competitive and inclusive. Coaches and students boast numerous state/region championships.

Mission



FAST FACTS



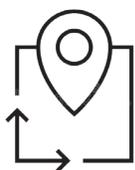
62%

Faculty and staff with advanced degrees



72%

Students receiving financial aid



52

Acres on campus



Our Athletic Department's mission is for student-athletes to grow in their academic and spiritual life, becoming positive role models in all of their future endeavors by providing numerous opportunities for all students with any skill level to participate in sports. The lessons learned from participation in athletics are vast and play a major role in the development of our students.

Goal

St. Mary's Academy Athletic Department's goal is for each student to be provided with opportunities to participate and succeed in sports. Our belief is that life lessons and values such as discipline, teamwork, commitment, and hard work can be learned through athletics.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

St. Mary's Academy encourages students to participate in student activities and clubs in addition to pursuing their academic work. Extracurricular activities provide students with opportunities for leadership, cooperation, performance, and service and help them develop friendships, explore their talents, contribute to the community, and have fun.

Some of the options available for students are student government, yearbook, National Honor Society, robotics club, color guard, student ambassadors, and broadcast technology.

THE POSITION

It's an exciting time for the Archdiocese of Atlanta's only PreK-12 school community as it transitions to the President-Principal model.

In this increasingly popular structure, the Principal reports to the President and serves as the day-to-day leader of academic operations including all aspects of the student experience – from the classroom to the playing fields, to faith formation, and extracurricular programming.

The Office of the President's primary purpose to provide broad leadership for the St. Mary's Academy school community to achieve the fullest realization of its Catholic mission. The President, in collaboration with the Principal and respective school leaders, is equally responsible for the successful overall operation of the school through effective delegation of responsibilities to the administrative team, faculty, and staff.

The President is appointed by and reports directly to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools and partners with the school's Advisory Board, The President serves as the chief advancement and strategic officer while leading constituents and stakeholders in implementing the Archdiocese's vision for the school. In doing so, the President serves as a public face of St. Mary's Academy community and is directly responsible for its external affairs, for ensuring sufficient resources, sound fiscal management, and its financial stability through direct oversight of the business operations. The President is supported by a highly skilled senior leadership team and will play an active role in overseeing the school's alumni and community relations, advancement initiatives, enrollment management activities, and facilities and infrastructure needs.



DESIRED QUALITIES AND CHARACTERISTICS

We seek candidates who are mission-driven leaders with a demonstrated capacity to think strategically while inspiring and motivating teachers, students, parents, alumni, and stakeholders to advance the Academy's unified vision of excellence based on its common beliefs and mission. Candidates must be actively practicing their Catholic faith and be in good standing with the Church.

The President of St. Mary's Academy is also expected to exhibit many of the following qualifications:

- Faith-filled and Christ-centered servant leader who embraces, models, and champions the traditions, values and social teachings of this vibrant PreK-12 Catholic school and community.
- Advanced degree in an education or business-related field with a full understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing Catholic education.
- Proven capacity in leading critical functions of budget and financial management, institutional growth and development, and high-level fundraising and philanthropic efforts.
- Career experience which complements the school's tradition of excellent academics, strong spiritual formation, competitive athletic, artistic, and educational extracurricular pursuits, focus on service to the community, and the importance of faith and family.
- Proven leadership skills and capacity in serving as the culture-builder of this multi-campus school community. Experience in a President-Principal model is a plus.
- Executive presence which inspires confidence and passion among all stakeholders.
- Accomplished visionary able to lead this Catholic school community while ensuring success for all students, based on standards of excellence.
- Exceptional communication skills while serving as the public face of the school community in building constructive relationships with all stakeholders that inspires crucial support in its fundraising and enrollment management initiatives.
- Accessible and approachable leadership style, with the capacity to relate to all internal and external constituents and at school-sponsored events - locally and beyond.
- Well-versed in creating the conditions for market leadership in a highly competitive private school environment. Familiarity with the greater Atlanta market is a plus.
- Inspirational, humble, and authentic mentor who fosters leadership in others.
- Must be able to establish immediate rapport and trust with learning, parent, alumni, and civic communities.
- Skilled at identifying, attracting, developing, and retaining high-quality and mission-driven professionals with a commitment and passion for delivering a transformational Catholic educational experience.
- Fair, fun, and compassionate executive who embraces collaboration while leading with missionary zeal.



ABOUT THE AREA

Fayetteville is a city in and the county seat of Fayette County, Georgia. As of the 2020 census, the city had a population of just under 20,000, up from nearly 16,000 at the 2010 census. Fayetteville is located 22 miles south of downtown Atlanta.

Trilith Studios, then Pinewood Atlanta Studios, opened in Fayetteville in 2014. In 2020, River Rock bought out Pinewood's share of the studio. It is the largest film and television production studio in the United States outside the state of California. The studio has produced many large budget films, including several in the Marvel Cinematic Universe such as *Avengers: Infinity War*, *Avengers: Endgame*, and *Black Panther*.

In 2016, the Pinewood Forest mixed-use complex was launched. Located across the street from the studio, it features homes along with plans for "a movie theater, restaurants, boutique hotels, retail and office space", built using environmentally friendly building materials. In 2020, when the studio was renamed Trilith Studios, Pinewood Forest was renamed the Town at Trilith. In April 2021, Atlanta magazine ranked the community ninth in their top ten metro Atlanta vibrant city centers list.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- To apply, please submit the following four documents, confidentially, and as separate PDF attachments.
 - » Cover letter that aligns your experiences and skill sets with the current needs of the school as you understand them.
 - » Statement of Catholic educational philosophy.
 - » Current resume with all appropriate dates included.
 - » List of five references with names, phone numbers and email addresses. No references will be contacted without your knowledge and approval.
- Please include St. Mary's Academy in the subject field.



Assemble all of the application materials in one email to:

Michael Furey, Partner
mikefurey@partnersinmission.com
Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions, LLC
8 Nicklaus Way | Mashpee, MA 02649
570-730-2655 (Cell)
www.partnersinmissionsls.com



Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions is the retained search division of Partners in Mission, the nation's leading full-service consulting firm focused exclusively on developing excellence in Catholic school advancement and leadership. As partners among ourselves and with our clients' missions, we value, understand, and embrace the importance of Catholic education in our personal and professional lives — and remain committed to ensuring its strength and vitality for years to come. Engaged by religious and school communities, boards and dioceses, our team of dedicated search consultants have identified and secured mission-driven professionals to serve in a myriad of diverse Catholic school and diocesan leadership positions from Massachusetts to Hawaii.

WWW.PARTNERSINMISSIONSLSS.COM

Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions

8 Nicklaus Way | Mashpee, MA 02649