



Principal

SEARCH PROSPECTUS



ST. CATHERINE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SEBRING, FLORIDA

www.stcatheschool.org

START DATE - JULY 2024



SCHOOL OVERVIEW

St. Catherine Catholic School, a keystone of educational excellence since its establishment in 2008 by St. Catherine Parish, is proudly nestled in the heart of Sebring, Florida. Serving a dynamic student body of over 215 students spanning pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, St. Catherine's is dedicated to nurturing a diverse community where every student is empowered to thrive academically, spiritually, and personally.

Accredited by both the Florida Catholic Conference (FCC) and the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA), St. Catherine's has an unyielding commitment to fostering strong faith, academic proficiency, and a nurturing familial environment. It lays a formidable foundation for students to excel throughout their educational journey and future endeavors. Beyond the classroom, students are encouraged to explore and cultivate their unique talents and interests.

St. Catherine Catholic School values cultural diversity. It welcomes students from different cultural backgrounds and encourages them to become lifelong learners, compassionate individuals, and responsible citizens. St. Catherine's achieves this through a rigorous curriculum based on Catholic values and enhanced by a supportive community.

Additionally, families benefit from Florida's valued school choice program School Choice (fldoe.org) further enhancing accessibility to the unparalleled education offered by St. Catherine.

FAST FACTS



215+

Current Enrollment



20:1

Teacher/Student Ratio

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Catherine Catholic School provides a Christ-centered education and a strong Catholic foundation where children can strengthen their relationship with God and prepare for life's challenges and their service to others.

PHILOSOPHY

Acknowledging our partnership as the school community of St. Catherine, we promise to work together to:

- Teach the message revealed by God which the Church proclaims.
- Foster and nurture each student's faith through prayer, the Sacraments, attending Mass, and community service.
- Recognize all students have their own unique level of ability and achievement.
- Build a positive self-concept and sense of self-worth in each student entrusted to our care.
- Provide a curriculum in which students will experience a constructive pattern of growth leading to personal fulfillment and future success as lifelong learners.
- Provide a foundation of skills that will enable all students to be creative users of technology now and in the future.

SPIRITUALITY

St. Catherine Catholic School cultivates a faith-filled environment that fosters spiritual growth, moral decision-making, and ethical action. It empowers individuals to navigate the world with integrity and compassion and encourages families to practice their faith.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

St. Catherine Catholic School prides itself on delivering a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum to challenge and inspire students at every grade level. St. Catherine's offers an extensive curriculum emphasizing STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Recognizing the individual needs of each student, St. Catherine's provides support services tailored to ensure every student reaches their full potential. But the offerings extend far beyond the basics. St. Catherine Catholic School enriches the educational experience through diverse specials for all grades. These include Spanish (with 8th graders having the opportunity to take Spanish I through Florida Virtual School for high school credit), Art, Music, Physical Education, Computer/Technology, and Social Emotional Learning utilizing the Friendly curriculum.

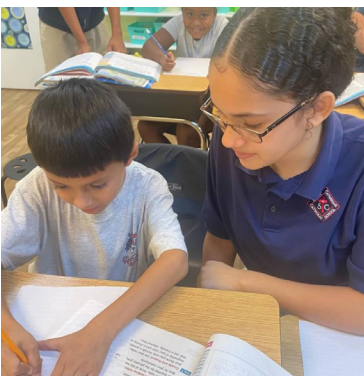
Technology integration is a keystone of St. Catherine's educational approach. The school operates a 1:1 iPad Program for students from kindergarten through 8th grade. Moreover, 1st through 8th grade classrooms are

equipped with technology, enabling teachers to display various educational content, including e-books, instructional videos, and student assignments, from their iPads.

St. Catherine Catholic School regularly assesses K-8 students to ensure academic growth and progress. Its curriculum and assessments empower students to reach their full potential.

ATHLETICS, CLUBS, AND ACTIVITIES

At St. Catherine's, students have many enriching opportunities beyond the traditional classroom setting. Its athletic program has expanded in the last two years, showcasing a growing commitment to physical activity and team sports. Their competitive spirit is evident as students engage with neighboring private schools in thrilling matchups across basketball, flag football, and cheerleading. Additionally, students take pride in diverse extracurricular opportunities, with 11 clubs available to our students, fostering their talents and interests beyond the classroom. The school's diverse clubs and activities cater to students' interests and passions. Whether immersing themselves in the realm of creativity through participation in Art Club, engaging in literary discussions within Book Club, honing strategic skills in Chess Club, or delving into science and technology with the Robotics Team, there is an avenue for every individual. The offerings extend beyond academic pursuits, with opportunities like the Student Council for leadership development, Math Club and National Junior Honor Society for academic excellence, Rosary Club for spiritual growth, and STREAM Club for interdisciplinary exploration. Moreover, the Yearbook Club ensures that cherished memories are preserved and celebrated. St. Catherine's commitment to holistic development fosters a vibrant community where students can thrive, explore, and create.

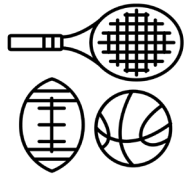


FAST FACTS



20-23

Optimal Class Size



3

Number of athletic teams



THE POSITION

The principal must be an innovative and visionary educational leader with demonstrated expertise in pedagogy, curriculum, instruction, and assessment within a pre-kindergarten through grade eight learning environment. The pastor and principal work collaboratively to inspire students, parents, and staff to live as Jesus taught by integrating Catholic values within the academic setting and throughout the parish and the wider community. The school's vibrant multicultural community is designed to ensure that every St. Catherine Catholic School graduate is formed in faith, is educated in excellence, and is ready to serve.

The principal is expected to:

- Provide continuous catechetical formation to students, parents, and staff.
- Actively engage their school community in the evangelizing mission of the Church.
- Embrace the concept of putting faith into action by actively engaging students and staff in serving others.
- Create a school culture steeped in a Catholic Worldview, centered on the person of Jesus Christ, and sustained by Gospel witness.
- Form a vibrant Catholic learning and faith community that is distinguished by excellence.
- Work to ensure that Catholic education is accessible to all students.
- Exemplify a commitment to educating the whole child.

FAST FACTS



11

Number of clubs/
activities offered



45%

Students participating
in the arts

- Continuously improve his or her school by implementing innovative leadership practices specific to the following domains:
 - » Mission and Catholic Culture
 - » Governance and Leadership
 - » Academic Excellence
 - » Operational Vitality

OPPORTUNITIES

St. Catherine Catholic School offers a unique opportunity for a dynamic and visionary leader to make a meaningful impact. By embracing any challenges ahead with optimism and determination, a new principal can lead St. Catherine's toward a future of continued growth, excellence, and impact, shaping students' lives and serving the broader community with distinction. A significant opportunity lies in supporting an increasing enrollment. By leveraging the school's rich tradition of academic excellence and vibrant community, one can further develop innovative strategies and reinforce community outreach efforts. Highlighting the school's mission, unique offerings, and value proposition will continue to attract new students and families, enriching the school community and expanding its impact.

The state has provided significant support for affordability by implementing the universal voucher program in Florida. All students, regardless of income, now have access to tax-backed vouchers. This program extends eligibility from kindergarten to grade 12 in public schools, providing families with more educational choices than ever before. A significant aspect of this initiative is the provision of generous scholarships. Families receive substantial financial support, with an average of almost \$7,900 per student. As a result, several St. Catherine Catholic School families have over 95% of their tuition covered.





Adapting to evolving educational standards and best practices provides an opportunity to improve academic excellence and promote innovation. The new principal can offer dynamic leadership by aligning the curriculum with pedagogical advancements such as the integration of STREAM disciplines. Additionally, they can continue to create an inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive by ensuring equitable access to educational resources and support services for diverse learners.

Fostering school unity creates an opportunity to strengthen collaboration, trust, and respect through communication and relationship building, cultivating a supportive community spirit to work towards common goals and enriching the school experience.

QUALITIES AND CHARACTERISTICS

- Grounded in a strong Catholic faith, guiding all actions and decisions with empathy and care, fostering a nurturing environment for student growth.
- Leads by example as a role model and mentor, instilling a positive attitude, embracing growth, and prioritizing personal and professional development.
- Dedicated to cultural sensitivity and actively engaging and supporting a diverse community of students, families, and staff members.
- Initiates and executes creative programs to cultivate growth and innovation within the school, steadfastly committed to its mission and values.
- Demonstrates exceptional leadership by unifying the school community and promoting a culture of respect and compassion.





- Utilizes administrative and teaching experience to support faculty, fostering collaboration and respect in the workplace.
- Embraces change and innovation, fostering adaptability and openness to drive excellence.
- Takes a hands-on leadership approach, actively participating in school activities and supporting students, staff, and parents.
- Displays exemplary communication skills, maintaining open and approachable lines of communication with all stakeholders.
- A dedicated fundraiser, leveraging resources to support the school's growth while prioritizing community well-being.

Candidate requirements for this position include:

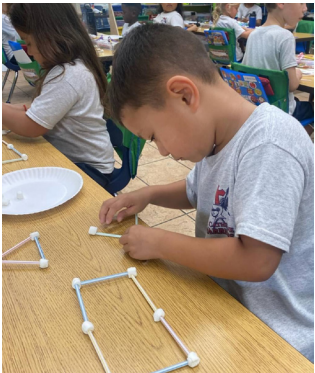
- Be a practicing Catholic in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.
- Possess (or be eligible to receive) a State of Florida principal certificate, including required graduate coursework in educational leadership.
- Possess (or be eligible to receive) a State of Florida teaching certificate.
- Have a minimum of seven years of experience teaching or five years of experience leading in a school setting.
- Be able to meet the Diocese of Venice, Florida Department of Education, Florida Catholic Conference requirements for principals.
- Candidates with a Master's degree in Educational Administration are preferred.
- Must pass Level II Fingerprinting and complete Safe Environment.



ABOUT THE AREA

Sebring, a charming city in the heart of south-central Florida, earns its moniker “The City on the Circle” due to the central hub of Circle Drive, which anchors the Sebring Downtown Historic District. The city’s picturesque landscape is centered around the serene waters of Lake Jackson, with the Downtown Historic District gracing its waterfront.

Adding to its allure, Sebring proudly boasts the renowned Sebring International Raceway, a world-class venue famous for hosting the prestigious 12 Hours of Sebring. Beyond its racing legacy, Sebring offers a wealth of cultural attractions, including a diverse array of museums and art facilities that enrich the community and captivate visitors alike. With its scenic beauty, rich cultural heritage, and vibrant community spirit, Sebring stands as a beacon of Southern charm and hospitality in the heart of Florida.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The search committee is on a fast track to identify and secure the next principal. All inquiries and applications will be treated with the highest degree of confidentiality and the greatest respect. The successful candidate will be expected to assume the position’s responsibilities in July 2024

To apply, please submit the following four documents, confidentially and as separate PDF attachments.

- Letter of Interest 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 five references with names and their relationship to you, phone numbers and email addresses. (To include spiritual, professional, and personal) References will not be contacted without your knowledge and approval.
- Please include “St. Catherine Catholic School” in the subject field.



Assemble all of the application materials in one email to:

Scott Brogan, Partner
Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions, LLC
sbrogan@partnersinmission.com
(407) 497-1806 (Cell)
www.partnersinmissionslss.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.

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