

Goals & Criteria

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Conference on Sacred Heart Education

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Goals & Criteria Resource Directory

An Introduction

St. Madeleine Sophie chose the service of education as the primary means by which the Society would carry on its mission of communicating the love of the Heart of Jesus. Faithful to her inspiration and like her open to new situations, we make her desires our own:

- that people become ever more aware of the truth, of love and freedom
- that they discover the significance of their lives, and devote themselves to others
- that they take part creatively in the common effort to transform the world
- that they be enabled to encounter the love of Jesus
- that they let their lives be shaped by an active faith

Sacred Heart educators are grounded in this mission and guided by the *Goals and Criteria*. Our Five Goals capture our aspirations as Sacred Heart Educators, and our Criteria indicate to us that our Goals are being lived. In the 2020 version of the *Goals and Criteria* introduction, we read, “...the living of a mission as great as ours is never fully complete or realized. Given as gift, our mission is a sacred work fulfilled only through the enfolding of it by each generation.”

Since the first articulation of the *Goals and Criteria* in 1975, Sacred Heart educators have worked to discern the enfolding of Grace in every generation. At the same time, Sacred Heart educators – in 1990, 2005, and 2020 – have recognized the shifting challenges of their time. Today, we realize demographic and social shifts along with technological innovation and the information explosion. These shifts and innovations, political divisiveness, and uncertainty raise new dilemmas and threaten human dignity. In processes that resemble that of a church-wide synod, we have sought to hear the experience of God’s people and articulate the mission of Sacred Heart education so that everyone in a Sacred Heart school community is charged with living those values in their generation.

The wisdom of the *Goals and Criteria*, which capture the essence of St. Madeleine’s Sophie’s vision of education, also carry with them the wisdom of Catholic philosophy and theology from the centuries. When seeking to live the values of the *Goals and Criteria*, one can take for granted the deep grounding of our mission in Scripture and Tradition, in Faith and Reason, and in proven pedagogical practices that ensure that Sacred Heart students develop deep critical thinking as

well as skills to enrich the Common Good and further the Reign of God.

This resource book provides all Sacred Heart educators with a deep understanding of the depth of each criterion. Rooted in Scripture, Tradition, Church Teaching, the charism and Spirituality of the Society of the Sacred Heart, and proven pedagogy, each criterion is a concrete objective in helping Sacred Heart educators accomplish our shared mission in this generation. This resource will also serve as a tool for those who seek to understand the foundations of the values of Sacred Heart educators as Catholic educators for people of all faiths.

The Education to Mission Committee and the task force specifically charged with this project hope that this resource helps one explore their own understanding of and commitment to the 2020 *Goals and Criteria*. And, consequently, enables all Sacred Heart educators to further the vision of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, that each child encounters the love of God and becomes equipped with the knowledge and skills to know personal success and to further God’s reign.

To view the *Resource Directory*, scan the QR code or visit: <https://bit.ly/SH-GCRD>

