



# Principal

SEARCH PROSPECTUS



## John Paul II Catholic Preparatory School

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

[www.johnpaulschoolmn.org](http://www.johnpaulschoolmn.org)

START DATE – JULY 2018



## Mission Statement

With Christ as our cornerstone, and the Catholic Faith as our Foundation, St. John Paul II Catholic Preparatory School educates the whole person.

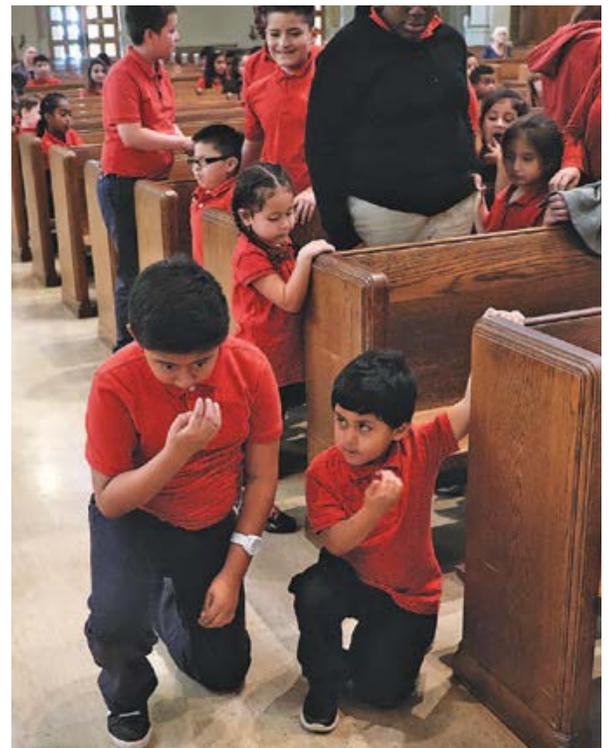


## About the School

St. John Paul II Catholic School offers a rigorous, faith-based education, built on a framework of individualized learning that incorporates MAP Growth assessments three times each school year. Many of our scholars live in challenging circumstances. We build a network of support for families in need with our community partners. Our social-emotional learning curriculum provides scholars with tools for personal interaction, self-discipline and confidence that they will use for a lifetime. Each child leaves our school knowing that they are a beloved child of God with special gifts and talents.

## Member of Ascension Catholic Academy

Ascension Catholic Academy is a consortium of schools with centralized leadership and governance that delivers academic excellence and coordinates efforts to serve the whole child. It is the result of more than a year of study by Church of the Ascension and its partners on the best strategy to ensure excellence and sustainability in Catholic schools serving low-income scholars and families in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. Three schools are currently in the consortium: St. Peter Claver, St. John Paul II Preparatory and Ascension Catholic School. Each of these schools primarily serves scholars who come from diverse backgrounds, with a large majority in need of additional academic and social support.





## Why this approach

The bold vision of the Academy is to ensure that Catholic schools are a key part of the solution to the Achievement Gap that is entrenched in the urban cores of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The Academy is becoming a network of excellent Catholic schools that offers a rigorous academic program of value to scholars, families, schools, parishes and the Twin Cities community. The ultimate aim is that every scholar will realize a future full of hope through the opportunity that education and faith can bring forth. GHR Foundation and Ascension are partners in this endeavor. The Academy combines the best elements of each of the schools and create value in four key ways:

1. Improved centralized leadership and governance. This structure is highly effective and efficient, and it will generate cross learning in which the Academy schools share, refine and grow together.
2. Increased neighborhood stability as the Academy schools continue to grow as a financially viable and vital partner of the inner-city neighborhoods that each school serves.
3. Support for local schools that serve the unique needs of each neighborhood and maintain a unique identify, culture, and community connection.
4. Increased affordability for families seeking faith-based schools with rigorous academics that support the development of the whole child.

## The Position

The Principal supports and engages in the ministerial work of Ascension Catholic Academy and will serve as a member of the Academy Leadership Team. The primary responsibility of this position is to provide overall leadership for John Paul II School. The Principal provides high-quality elementary and junior high education for all students, in a Catholic environment, by directing all educational and administrative activities of the school. This includes directing the professional teaching staff, administrative, office, and cafeteria staff. The Principal actively engages with the Advancement Department, including interacting with donors on school tours and at other fundraising events and playing a prominent role in student recruitment and marketing. The Principal directs communication with parents and collaborates with the Communications Manager on communications to other stakeholders. The Principal supports and implements parish administrative policies and procedures as they pertain to the school.

## FAST FACTS



# 119

Scholars in the  
2017-2018 School Year



# 88%

Free/Reduced  
Lunch



# 94%

Students  
of Color



# 79%

ELL  
Students



## Vision Statement

St. John Paul II Catholic School strives to provide a transformational education to all scholars. An education opens opportunities and, for a great majority of St. John Paul II scholars, helps to break a family cycle of poverty.



## Challenges and Opportunities

Supported by a grant from the GHR Foundation, the President, Board and staff of the three elementary schools in the Ascension Catholic Academy network have participated in ongoing strategic discussions to develop a maturity model that provides a framework for success. The schools' leadership believes that the Academy's model of governance and teaching pedagogy will eventually serve as a national model for closing the student achievement gap in Catholic urban education. The ultimate goal is to expand this model of success to additional Catholic elementary schools in the Twin Cities.

The Twin Cities has one of the highest achievement gaps for students of color in the country, and addressing this challenge is a primary focus of the Academy. Most of students entering kindergarten at the three schools lack the appropriate readiness skills necessary for success. The John Paul II is a highly relational community that operates with an "abundance" mindset of focusing on opportunities rather than deficits.

John Paul II has been welcomed in the Higher Powered Learning Program through the ACE Program at the University of Notre Dame. This program will transform the instructional framework of the school over the next three years. Higher Powered Learning is a framework that implements blended learning to differentiate the needs and growth of each scholar.



## Desired Qualities and Characteristics

### Mission Driven

- Faith-filled, mission-inspired leader with a passion for Catholic education and working with children in an urban setting.
- Culturally proficient and highly relational and welcoming of the Latino community.
- Bilingual in Spanish and English strongly preferred.
- Demonstrates humility and patience with high ethical standards.
- Displays a demonstrated commitment to working with children and families from diverse economic, cultural, religious, and racial backgrounds in an urban school setting.
- Supports the vision, mission and beliefs of Catholic education.

### Instructional Leader

- Experienced instructional leader with proven ability to improve academic results for all scholars.
- Innovative and inspiring leader who can build a strong team of educators to implement rigorous and effective academic programming and design models for curriculum evaluation and assessment
- Skilled in data-driven decision-making practices regarding effective teaching and learning strategies.
- Committed to academic programming driven by individualized instruction and blended learning.
- Possesses an advanced degree in education or related field and experience in educational administration and curriculum development, preferably in a leadership role in a multiple-school system.
- Prior experience as school principal preferred.

### Organizational Leader

- Excellent technological skills for both instructional and business environments.
- Possess excellent oral and written communication skills and a passion for motivating teachers.
- Possesses excellent organizational skills.
- Fair, fun and compassionate executive who embraces collaboration while leading with missionary zeal.
- Prior urban Catholic School leadership experience preferred.

## FAST FACTS



**90%**

Catholic  
Students



**\$31,980**

Average  
Household income



**\$2,550**

Tuition



Accredited through the  
Minnesota Nonpublic  
School Accrediting  
Association  
(MNSAA)



## About Minneapolis

Minneapolis, also called the City of Lakes and the Mill City, is a place where the locals are friendly, warm and welcoming. The population of the city is 413,651 for 2015 and the metropolitan area has 3,318,486 inhabitants making it the 16th largest in the United States.

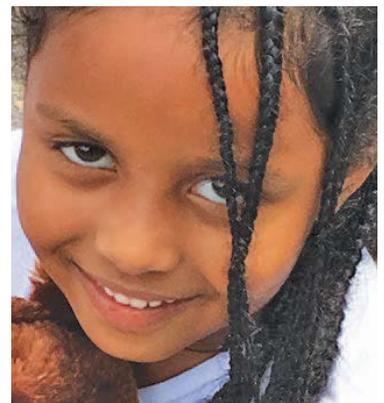
Located at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, once heated rivals, are known today as the Twin Cities and are the nexus of a thriving 11-county metropolitan area. Home to the largest of the four campuses of the University of Minnesota,

the area has rich cultural resources and a reputation for civic involvement by ordinary citizens and by its business community. It is home to numerous major corporations, which draw on a well-educated labor pool. In the decades since World War II (1939–45), the region's population has become increasingly a suburban one, but urban redevelopment has kept its central cities vital and safe.

Minneapolis attractions include St. Anthony Falls, the Stone Arch Bridge and the old Riverfront area; an “indoor” downtown in which 72 square blocks of buildings are connected by skyways; the stadiums of the

Vikings, Twins, Timberwolves, Lynx and Golden Gophers. Also, the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, the Institute of Arts, the Basilica of St. Mary, and the Guthrie Theater are strong attractions. But the greatest beauty of Minneapolis is its Lakes Area, most of which is surrounded by lavish homes in forested Camelot neighborhoods, as well as Minnehaha Falls.





## Application Procedure

To apply, please submit the following materials, confidentially and as separate PDF attachments in one email to Michael Furey. Please include St. John Paul II Catholic Preparatory School Member of the Ascension Catholic Academy Network in subject field.

- Cover letter that aligns your experiences and skill sets with the current needs of the school as you understand them.
- Current resume with all appropriate dates included.
- Statement of Catholic educational philosophy.
- List of five references including names, physical addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. No references will be contacted without your knowledge and approval.



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