Headmaster

Saint John’s High School welcomes applications for the position of Headmaster, with duties to commence in July 2016.

About Saint John’s

Saint John’s is a private, Catholic high school of approximately 1000 boys. Sponsored by the Xaverian Brothers, the School has a strong and storied history since its establishment in 1898. Its mission is to educate the whole man. Dedicated to the spiritual, intellectual, creative, social, aesthetic, and physical development of its students, Saint John’s offers a highly competitive college preparatory curriculum as well as a program focused on the moral and faith development of its students with the goal of forming “men of faith and men of service.”

Saint John’s remains committed to both the Xaverian educational philosophy and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Xaverian education seeks to provide young men with the opportunities to fully realize their own potential, while instilling a consciousness of both our common end in God and our shared responsibility to one another. Saint John’s seeks to guide students toward a sense of what it means to live as a committed Christian in a global community. Saint John’s provides an academic program which encourages students to develop themselves multi-dimensionally. A curriculum grounded in the liberal arts provides a broad base for future learning, while strengthening critical thinking skills. Saint John’s admits students of varying academic ability, always striving to inspire those students to the fullest possible realization of their God-given abilities. Eighty percent of the
Senior class take at least one Advanced Placement Course prior to graduation. Saint John’s boasts 150 Advanced Placement Scholars for each of the past ten years. In recent years the School was recognized by the College Board and the Siemens Foundation as the number one school in Massachusetts in the area of Science, Math & Technology. Graduates regularly matriculate at the nation’s most competitive universities and colleges. Saint John’s also sponsors a full complement of sports teams and clubs which regularly distinguish themselves in interscholastic competitions. Students from various faith backgrounds enroll at Saint John’s; all experience the values and philosophy of a strong Christian community and commit themselves to take advantage of the opportunities for personal growth while discovering their unique individual gifts and talents.

Special Opportunity

Saint John’s holds a valued position in the Central Massachusetts and Metro West communities. Saint John’s is recognized as one of the premier Catholic and secondary schools in New England. The School focuses on academic excellence as well as on the training of tomorrow’s leaders. The School has developed a strong alumni network, not only within central New England but across the nation. Regional alumni receptions hosted throughout the country serve to foster continued relationships with the School and with fellow alumni. Alumni sponsored events within the past year have been held in California, Illinois, New York/Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Texas, Florida, Washington DC, Cape Cod and Boston. The strength of the alumni network, coupled with dedicated faculty and staff, involved parents, and an unwavering focus on the mission of the School makes this leadership position an ideal opportunity for candidates striving to lead a good school to even greater heights.

Along with an experienced teaching faculty, administrative staff, and senior leadership team, the School boasts a dedicated and talented Board of Trustees which plays a central role in strategic planning and development for the School. The Board, in concert with the Headmaster, recently completed a $21.5 million campaign in 2011, which funded the renovation of 100,000 sq. ft. of classroom, office, food service and athletic space. In addition, over the past three years, the School raised an additional $8 million, and refinanced a low-interest bond which supported the construction of Founders Hall without increasing the School’s debt service. Founders Hall, a tribute to those who came before us, is now home to 15 state-of-the-art classrooms, housing the World Language and Social Studies Departments. The building also houses the Fine Arts Department with a new choral
room, visual arts studio, band room, and a 350 seat theater with advanced orchestra, audio and lighting capabilities which will enable the School to serve not only its own programmatic growth but that of the greater community.

The Position

The Headmaster is hired by and reports directly to the Board of Trustees. As chief executive of the School, the Headmaster provides the vision, leadership, and direction necessary to enable the School to carry out its mission in a work environment that is dedicated to excellence in all phases of school life. The Headmaster plays a number of key roles at Saint John’s including providing leadership for the spiritual, academic, financial, and advancement facets of school life. The Headmaster works closely with the Board of Trustees to set the strategic direction of the School, leads the formulation of policies and programs to ensure strategic goals and objectives are met, and oversees all aspects of management and operations. The Headmaster in conjunction with senior leaders provides leadership in developing and maintaining the best possible educational programs through the hiring and retention of administrators, faculty and staff. The Headmaster ensures the continuing financial viability of the School through strong budgeting discipline and support of an already robust advancement effort; and provides leadership to the spiritual life of the School by supporting a vibrant Campus Ministry and staff formation program. Saint John’s offers a highly competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished educator or administrator who is a practicing and active Catholic with an enduring commitment to Catholic education. This candidate will have proven executive skills and will possess an adaptive leadership style and communications skills that will inspire the School’s many stakeholder groups – students, faculty/staff/administrators, parents, donors, alumni, and friends. The Headmaster will serve as the leader of the School, forwarding the mission by focusing on goals and working in a collaborative manner. An understanding of and experience with Xaverian Brothers Sponsored Schools is preferred, yet experience with other Catholic Schools is also valued in a candidate. A willingness to develop an experiential understanding and commitment to the mission of Xaverian Brothers Sponsored Schools, which in part is made manifest in the
mission of Saint John’s High School, is required. The Headmaster is the “face of Saint John’s” and thus, should be known by both internal and external constituents. The successful candidate will be a strategic thinker who is committed to excellence and continuous improvement of all aspects of the School’s operations. Excellent organizational and sound financial management skills coupled with a strong work ethic are essential. An advanced degree in a relevant discipline, along with five years of leadership experience is required.

Applications

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume, and materials you believe germane to this process to: Saint John’s High School, c/o Mr. Mark Quinn, Chair of Headmaster Search Committee, 378 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545. Applications can also be sent electronically to headmastersearch@stjohnshigh.org. Initial review of applications will begin on December 9, 2015, and the position will remain open until filled.