

SAINT PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL



Chicago, IL
All Boys Grades 9-12
Founded 1861

President

July 2021





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Mission Statement

Saint Patrick provides an educational experience of the highest quality which enables young men to develop their maximum potential as lifelong learners and assets to society and the Church.

Vision Statement

Saint Patrick will be recognized as the premier all-male Catholic high school in Chicago.

Core Values

- We are Catholic in faith, Lasallian in tradition.
- We believe in an educational process that is student centered and of the highest quality.
- We have a concern for the dignity of each person
- We create a welcoming atmosphere of mutual respect, caring, and friendliness.
- We believe in and foster service opportunities for students and faculty.
- We promote diversity as a life value for living, learning, and growing as balanced persons.
- We believe in the strength of community—faculty, students, parents, alumni, and friends; that is, *the Saint Patrick Family*.

The Opportunity

Saint Patrick High School, located on the Northwest Side of the city of Chicago, has opened a search for a new President, who will begin July 2021. The school seeks an experienced educational leader who is a practicing Catholic, who will provide mission-centered leadership to ensure strong academic and co-curricular programs permeated by the Catholic faith in the Lasallian tradition. Saint Patrick is a comprehensive Catholic high school under the sponsorship and guidance of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. (For more Information on the De La Salle Christian Brothers of the Midwest [click here](#)) With a student enrollment of approximately 523 students, the school accepts students of all ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. Ninety-four percent of its graduates attend post-secondary educational institutions.

About Saint Patrick

Now in its 160th year, Saint Patrick High School is the oldest all-male Catholic high school in Chicago. Its mission is to provide an educational experience of the highest quality which enables young men to develop their maximum potential as life-long learners and assets to society and the Church.

Saint Patrick High School was founded by the Christian Brothers (Brothers of the Christian Schools) in 1861. In its original location at Des Plaines and Adams Streets, Saint Patrick served young men from the surrounding area. In 1953, Saint Patrick was moved to its present location at Belmont and Austin Avenues in order to serve the growing population of the northwest side. As the school continued to grow, so did the need for curriculum and facility expansion. A swimming pool, a handball court and additional classrooms were added in 1967. In 1989, a Computer Learning Center was created, which is now home to their distinctive INCubatoredu Entrepreneurship Program.



The administration and Board of Trustees became instrumental forces in the strategic planning and development of the school's first-ever capital campaign, Vision 2000. The \$6.5 million building and program expansion project was completed in July 2000 and included an atrium, a state-of-the-art library/media center, a 300-seat theater, music and art facilities, an auxiliary gymnasium and additional office space. Other facility improvements and upgrades included the Administrative Center remodeling and office expansion (October 2004) and the resurfacing of the athletic practice field with state-of-the-art artificial turf (July 2008).

In 2014, Saint Patrick formulated its 2020 Strategic Plan, a roadmap for innovation and excellence. Physical improvements included the "Lasallian Garden," a 20,000 square foot urban garden and the Ettore L. Giovannetti Health and Wellness Center, housing equipment and technology for physical education, team training and fitness programs. In 2016, the INCubatoredu Entrepreneurship Program was introduced, complete with a custom-built classroom designed to serve as a "think tank." The school also implemented a STEAM program that strives to expose students to opportunities that prepare them to be innovators for a 21st century economy and world. The school also unveiled the new state-of-the-art Brullo Family Science Center.

The School Community

The strong sense of community among students, teachers, administrators and staff at Saint Patrick High School is palpable. What remains unchanged in its 160-year history is the Lasallian spirit and tradition of teaching and caring for young people in a community unwaveringly dedicated to the intellectual growth and spiritual well-being of its young men. There is a strong sense of brotherhood among the students, for whom "unity" and friendships are of utmost importance. To them, being a Shamrock is respecting one another, having each other's backs, cultivating growth through shared trials and celebrating accomplishments. The expectation throughout the school is that everyone is in this together and that "understanding differences makes us stronger." While the young men take full advantage of the academic opportunities as well as athletics the arts, and retreats, service opportunities give them a chance to support the underserved and marginalized in community. They

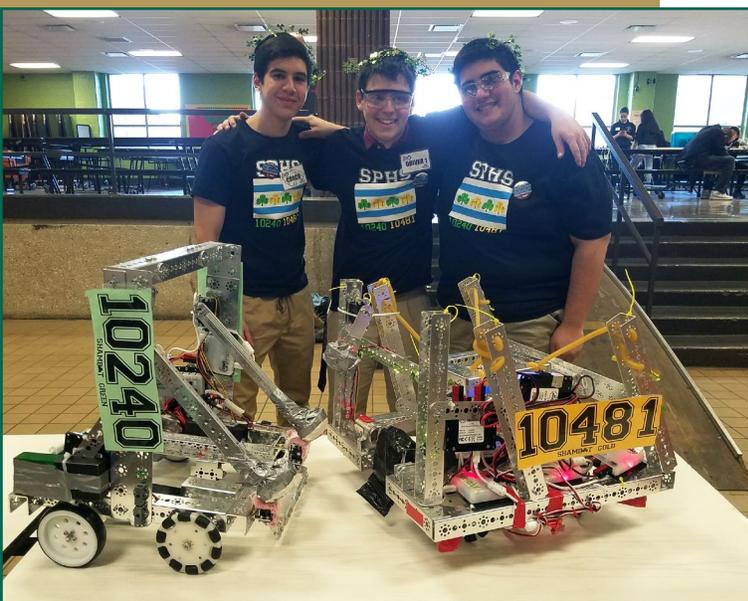


work with the Open Arms Ministry, a Chicago-based organization combatting homelessness, collecting backpacks and winter coats. When the Covid quarantine was imposed, the basketball team held two food drives to help those in need.

For faculty, being Lasallian educator is being an educator for all, making them productive members of society. They appreciate that Saint Patrick provides “unique opportunities for boys to find their own excellence within their talent base” and that they are partners in that effort. They know that the school’s location allows for a diverse student body, which they feel is an asset to the school community. The strong family feel of the school is evident and is a reason that alumni return to the school as faculty or staff.

Program

The Saint Patrick High School academic program consists of courses designed to challenge the ability levels of the student body. The graduation requirements are designed to meet most college admission standards and/or job application needs. The curriculum is designed to help the Saint Patrick High School faculty educate its students in Christian maturity, intellectual inquiry and growth. The school’s curriculum, while comprehensive, emphasizes essential educational skills, Christian formation, socio-cultural awareness, artistic expression and physical development. Knowing that verbal, quantitative and analytic skills are essential to all further learning, the Saint Patrick curriculum is dedicated to emphasizing these skills to adequately prepare its students for a variety of post-secondary educational experiences and the continuing process of lifelong learning.



The academic program is comprised of three programs of study based on the student’s ability level(s). The Honors (Academy Scholars) Program is intended for students with high ability or special interests. The College Prep De La Salle Program is provided for the student whose ability is at grade level or moderately above grade level. ([Academics](#)). The Phoenix program seeks to address the needs of students who may be below grade level. Since a student’s ability may not be the same in all subjects, it is possible for a student to enroll in courses that span more than one ability level. The main thrust of





the coursework in the Phoenix program is to help the student improve in areas where support is needed so that he can be mainstreamed into the De La Salle College level coursework if possible. The courses offer several types of academic support to aid students with core instruction in English/ Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science and teachers differentiate their instruction based on their students' learning needs.

In addition to a wide range of core academic offerings ([Curriculum Guide](#)), Saint Patrick opens opportunities for students with some highlighted programs:

Dual Credit Program: Qualified students with high academic abilities or special academic or career interests have the opportunity to earn college credits while at Saint Patrick. The dual credit opportunity is through partnerships with Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Lewis University, Loyola University Chicago and Dominican University. Starting sophomore year, students can enroll in select classes for college credit as a significantly reduced cost as compared to college. Currently, Saint Patrick offers 18 dual credit courses and up to 56 college credit hours for the 2020-2021 school year.

InCubator Lab: Saint Patrick High School's yearlong entrepreneurship course that gives students the opportunity to create and fully develop their own product or service. INCubatoredu is the high school students' "Shark Tank" dream. This new curriculum, developed by successful business leaders, gives students the tools, knowledge and understanding to start their own businesses and test their ideas in the real world. ([Incubator Program](#))

STEAM: This program strives to help Saint Patrick students think deeply and be prepared to transform into future innovators, educators, researchers and leaders who can solve challenges our world faces today and in the future. The STEAM program allows students to weave together ideas from various disciplines, think critically, be creative and use discovery as an engine for learning. ([STEAM Program](#))



Athletics: Saint Patrick High School offers 14 male varsity sports, all of which offer various levels of competition for our student-athletes. The Shamrocks compete at a variety of prestigious facilities – from the baseball diamond at Kerry Wood Field to the football field of Triton College, Read-Dunning Memorial Park and the golf courses of Ridgemoor Country Club – in addition to hosting basketball, swimming, wrestling and more at the school. ([Athletics](#))

Arts: Visual and performing arts help to cultivate the creative minds and talents of the young men. Vocal and instrumental classes, graphic design and digital arts, artistic and technical theatre offerings all add to the full school experience for the students. ([Arts](#))

Campus Ministry: In addition to the Religious Studies curriculum, students participate in a number of campus ministry programs and activities that foster healthy spirituality. These include grade-level retreats, school liturgies and campus ministry. Retreats are offered at all grade levels, day-long retreats for underclassmen and over-night retreats for juniors and seniors. In addition to special liturgies, Mass is celebrated every Friday morning in the school chapel. ([Campus Ministry](#))

For a video overview of the Saint Patrick program [click here](#).

Governance

The administrative structure changed in 1987 when the position of President was created. The existence of a President/Principal style of leadership effectively addressed the needs of both students and the larger community. In 1990, a Board of Trustees model was incorporated and adopted by the Christian Brothers. Currently, the twenty-member board is comprised of men and women who represent various career backgrounds and includes among its members representatives of the Christian Brothers and Saint Patrick alumni.

Saint Patrick High School By The Numbers

Enrollment 2020-21: 523

Grade 9: 101

Grade 10: 113

Grade 11: 161

Grade 12: 148

Percentage of students who are Catholic: 86%

Percentage of diversity students: approximately 49%

Administration: 6

Full-time Faculty: 40

Part-time Faculty: 2

Full-time Staff: 16

Part-time Staff: 6

Tuition for 2020-21:

\$12,730

71.3% of students receive scholarships and/or tuition assistance

"You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care."

St. John Baptiste De La Salle



The Future

The Board of Trustees and the Saint Patrick High School community seek a President of absolute integrity who will establish deep roots in the school and in the Chicagoland community and who has the attributes and skills to lead St. Pat's in continuing to provide an exceptional student experience. This individual will value and articulate the school's special qualities of a diverse and caring community to the broader community as well as maintain and model its Catholic ethos, mission and Lasallian charism. The new President will be an innovative, energetic and an accomplished leader with sound judgment who is prepared to deal with the broad range of school matters and has the growth capacity to serve as an outstanding leader for Saint Patrick High School for many years.

The key areas of focus for the next President are:

Catholic/Lasallian Identity:

The next President, who will be entrusted to carry on the mission, tradition and charism of the Christian Brothers, must ensure that the Lasallian identity remains an integral part of the school. The challenge is to maintain the essence of the institution while imbuing it with an enhanced sense of purpose to provide for meaningful implementation in a 21st century context. The next President must embrace, promote and ensure that both the school's Catholic identity and its Lasallian tradition informs all that is done at Saint Patrick High School.

Vision for the Future:

The Board and the President have worked diligently to ensure that Saint Patrick High School continues to fulfill its mission. Having recently completed its **Saint Patrick 2020—A Road Map For Excellence** strategic plan, the school is preparing to begin its next strategic plan. The new President, in collaboration with the Board and the school community, will have the opportunity to be involved in establishing a clear, cohesive vision for the future, one that balances a respect for tradition with an understanding of the new realities of education in today's world. The new President must engage and energize the St. Pat's community so that all of the stakeholders are fully engaged in how Saint Patrick High School will continue to thrive into the future.

Institutional Advancement:

The new President will be responsible for strengthening the community's awareness of the school's success as well as developing and enhancing meaningful relationships both internally and externally with all constituents (Board, faculty, parents, students, alumni, the broader community, etc.). The President must articulate the distinctive value of the school, its Lasallian Catholic identity, the outstanding academic and co-curricular programs and the wonderful community, all of which are the hallmarks of Saint Patrick. The new President must also actively involve all Saint Patrick constituents in this effort. Specifically, the new President will take a leading role in several key areas to ensure that the school has the necessary resources to fulfill its mission of providing a transformative education for the young men who attend St. Pat's. These include:

- Advancement/Development--Provide for a comprehensive advancement/ development program, which focuses on enhancing alumni engagement, donor relations and the acquisition of the financial resources through both annual as well long-term giving to address key issues of access and affordability, faculty compensation, quality program, capital needs and endowment.
- Marketing/Branding--In collaboration with all stakeholders, the President must promote Saint Patrick High School and ensure that there is a comprehensive marketing and outreach program that takes into account an understanding of Saint Patrick's position in the local marketplace.
- Enrollment Management--Utilizing a comprehensive strategic marketing and outreach program, the President will lead the development and implementation of a comprehensive enrollment management plan. This plan will also need to address such key issues as affordability, strategic use of financial aid and diversity. The new President must also actively involve all Saint Patrick's constituents (Board, administration, faculty, staff, parents) in this effort.

Faculty/Administration:

Saint Patrick High School benefits from a committed, dedicated, professional faculty and administration. The President will continue to effectively engage and mobilize this talent to carry out the mission of the school. Specifically, the new President works closely with the leadership team to facilitate the school's commitment to teaching excellence and ensure the continued growth of teachers. It is critical that the new President, working in collaboration with senior administration, is attentive to seizing the school's opportunity to retain and attract the best and brightest faculty and administrators and empowering them to use their expertise to move the school forward, while helping them to embrace what it means to be a Saint Patrick educator.



In addition, the President, working with senior administration, will evaluate the overall organization to ensure that the leadership structure is appropriate and one that allows for the effective implementation of the school's goals to serve the needs of all students and the school. Also, this evaluation will provide clarity regarding roles and responsibilities of the various positions within the administrative structure as well as the understanding of organizational dynamics and systems to ensure strong collaboration among senior administration and appropriate delegation and accountability throughout the school. Finally, it is critical that there is a good understanding of what constitutes an effective president-principal model to ensure a strong working relationship between the two.

Essential Leadership Qualities Sought

The Board of Trustees and the school community are interested in candidates who will embrace, articulate and promote Saint Patrick High School's Lasallian Catholic identity and ethos as well as its dedication to faith, academic excellence and service. The President will be a practicing Catholic, grounded in faith; an individual who leads to inspire, who is aspirational and realistic; a leader who will understand and be committed to the founding principle of helping boys grow into young men of substance; and be passionate about Saint Patrick High School.

Candidates must demonstrate most, if not all, of the following critical competencies:

- Aptitude for and commitment to financial management and fundraising
- Ability and desire to forge relationships with all school constituencies
- Strategic sensibility
- Talent recruitment and development
- Team-based leadership that is collaborative, inclusive and transparent
- Digital competency
- A record of achievement

Candidates should exhibit the following executive leadership and management abilities:

- Clear, consistent and timely communication skills—listening, speaking and writing
- Organizational and interpersonal skills
- Encouraging a culture of respect and kindness
- An advanced degree and demonstrated professional development

The next leader of Saint Patrick High School will:

- work with the Institutional Advancement department to lead and guide fundraising and external affairs efforts;
- build trust and communicate effectively with the entire school community;
- find creative solutions to problems; and
- fully embrace the diverse community that is Saint Patrick's and its commitment to educating young men.

The new President has an entrepreneurial spirit and demonstrated experience in an educational setting. The successful candidate is an energizing, compassionate and innovative individual who is personable, authentic and inclusive, who leads with humility and decisiveness. Finally, the President will be a steward of Saint Patrick High School by fully investing into its life and into its greater community.

Search Process

Saint Patrick High School has engaged the national executive search firm Educational Directions to assist with the search. Candidates should submit all information as soon as possible, **but not before first speaking with one of the search professionals:**

Mathew Heersche, Ed.D. mheersche@edu-directions.com

and

Risa Oganessoff Heersche rheersche@edu-directions.com

Electronic submission of materials is required. **Please send materials in a consolidated pdf format.** Reference letters should be submitted separately.

Interested and qualified candidates should submit the following:

- Letter of interest indicating how your skills, knowledge and experience match the philosophy and values of Catholic education and the charism of the Christian Brothers
- Brief personal statement that includes the candidate's thoughts on leading Saint Patrick High School
- Current resume
- A list of five professional references, with email and phone contact information, as well as their role/relationship to you

