

# PRINCIPAL SEARCH

## FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL

Nashville, Tennessee

[fatherryan.org](http://fatherryan.org)

Start Date: July 2023



**Carney  
Sandoe**  
& ASSOCIATES

[CARNEYSANDOE.COM](http://CARNEYSANDOE.COM)

# Mission Statement

Father Ryan's mission is to be an experience of the living Gospel while challenging students to reach their spiritual, academic, and personal potential.

## Vision

Father Ryan seeks to be a superior Catholic high school, providing excellence in religious and moral formation, academics, athletics, and the arts while remaining accessible to those seeking an education in the Catholic Tradition.

## At a Glance



Established  
**1925**



Enrollment  
**900**



Tuition assistance awarded  
**\$2.2 million**



Student-faculty ratio  
**10:1**



Students of color  
**22%**



Total faculty  
**80**



Campus size  
**53-acres**



Percentage admitted into colleges and universities  
**100%**

Faculty with Advanced Degrees: 60%

Operating Budget for 2021-22: \$22.3M

Endowment: \$20.5M

Admissions admit rate: 95%

Zip codes represented: 62

Students receiving financial aid: 22%

Average class size: 16

Course offerings: 200+

AP courses: 27

National Academic Honorees 2021: 6

Interscholastic sports teams: 30

Team state championships: 65

Individual state championships: 125

Participation in athletics: 72%

Participation in the arts: 44%

Student clubs and organizations: 35+

Participation in one or more clubs: 88%

Local service partners: 40

Service hours performed by Class of 2022:  
**10,076**

School Motto: A Tradition of Faith, Knowledge,  
Service



## Overview

Father Ryan High School's long and celebrated history of providing quality Catholic education to the Nashville community began in 1925. As the oldest continuously operating Catholic diocesan school in Nashville, it provides an educational experience that is tailored to each of its 900 students across four learning levels, offering more than 200 thought-provoking and innovative academic courses. Here, students are immersed in an inclusive environment where all faiths are welcomed by a dedicated faculty who empower students to reach their spiritual, academic, and personal potential.

Steeped in rich history and tradition, Father Ryan seeks to be a superior Catholic High School providing excellence in religious and moral formation, academics, and athletics. The school's newest tradition, the House System launched in August 2020, helps guide and develop students outside of the classroom and fosters deeper relationships with teachers as well as lasting friendships among students of all grade levels. Today, the school continues to grow as an uplifting community where all are welcome. As Father Ryan High School celebrates nearly a century of excellence, its leadership continues to execute the current [Strategic Plan, "Forming Lives of Excellence in the Catholic Tradition,"](#) aimed at improving the lives of its students and the Father Ryan community as a whole.

The school operates in the President/Principal model and now seeks a dynamic, visionary, and faith-filled leader to serve as Principal effective July 2023. In this increasingly popular structure, the Principal reports to the President and serves as the day-to-day head of academic operations including all aspects of the student experience. This is a premier, high-performing institution that is warm, welcoming, and inclusive. Voted 'Top Work Places' by The Tennessean in both 2018 and 2019 and 'Best High School in Nashville' by the Nashville Scene in 2021, the Principal is expected to enhance this culture while modeling values and supporting the mission and traditions that set this outstanding school apart.



## Opportunities and Challenges

Father Ryan High School is one of the most premier coeducational Catholic high schools in the country. With its rich history and traditions, Father Ryan graduates are not only proud of their Alma Mater, they are also passionate about and loyal to it. The faculty and staff, many of whom have been members of the staff for over 30 years, share a deep sense of family and joyfully convey that sense of fellowship to the students. The next Principal will be expected to be a servant leader who embraces that community while providing a vision for educating both the mind and the heart.

Specific Opportunities and Challenges include:

- Preserving the rigor of the academic program while offering support to the myriad of students who matriculate to the school from a wide range of feeder schools, school districts, and regions of Nashville;
- Maintaining and supporting the school's Catholic identity;
- Providing a sense of moral and educational thoughtfulness;
- Improving accessibility to those seeking an education in the Catholic tradition;
- Continuing to drive innovation and collaboration in advancing the school's performance, while strengthening its long-standing traditions;
- Communicating the school's value proposition to the broader community in ways that expand enrollment;
- Advancing the school in marketing and communication to the broader community in order to expand enrollment;
- Being a visible connection to the larger Catholic community and enthusiastically embracing the community of faith to which he/she belongs;
- Providing positive energy and support for the multitude of athletic activities, fine and performing arts, and extra-curricular programs;
- Playing an integral role in the development of the school's next strategic plan.



## Qualifications and Personal Attributes

The next Principal of Father Ryan High School must be a practicing Catholic who is able to lead with a deep sense of faith and conviction. This role will report directly to the President, serve as a member of the Senior Leadership Team, and help oversee various departments on campus. The school strongly believes in its tagline : “You will be known; you will be loved”. This is not just a tagline, but is lived out by the President, Principal, faculty, and staff every day. Therefore, the next Principal will be passionately dedicated to the care and formation of members of the entire school community as whole persons (spirit, mind, and body). Maintaining that sense of community is of paramount interest to the faculty, staff, and students.

Specific Qualities and Characteristics of the next Principal include being:

- An approachable and able collaborator, who actively listens, is open to feedback, and knows how to instill a sense of teamwork with enthusiasm;
- A leader who is decisive around a shared vision;
- An effective communicator with all constituents and in a variety of environments;
- A person of integrity, faith, and humble compassion who can lead by example;
- Visible and present in knowing the school community and setting an example of inspiration for students and adults on campus;
- Committed to mission of the school and partners with the President to instill a value of excellence and leading educational practices;
- Willing to embrace the school’s commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging;
- Confident in leading a team of strong and experienced, faculty and staff;
- Passionate for life-long learning and continuous growth, while remaining organized, consistent, and holding all accountable.

# Learn More

Click on the links below to explore more about Father Ryan High School.

[School Website](#)

[Student Profile](#)

[School History](#)

[Virtual Campus Tour](#)

[Vision and Beliefs](#)

[College Matriculation](#)

[Strategic Plan](#)

[About Nashville, Tennessee](#)

[Inclusion](#)



## To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates should submit electronically in one email and as separate documents (preferably PDFs) the following materials:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A one-page statement of educational philosophy and practice;
- A list of five professional references with the name, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

**Brandon Jacobs**

Search Consultant

brandon.jacobs@carneysandoe.com

**Barbara Daush**

Search Consultant

barbara.daush@carneysandoe.com