

HEAD OF SCHOOL SEARCH

GULLIVER PREP

Miami, Florida

gulliverprep.org

Start Date: July 2026

GulliverPrep



**Carney
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& ASSOCIATES

CARNEYSANDOE.COM

Mission Statement

To create an academic community devoted to educational excellence, with a personal touch, that fulfills each student’s potential.

Vision

Gulliver will build on its history of innovation and transformation—opening the world wide for our students to learn boldly, act with great heart, and lead wisely.

At a Glance



Established
1926



Enrollment
2,240



Total faculty
325



Student-teacher ratio
14.5:1



Students of color
62%



Financial aid awarded
\$12M



Faculty with advanced degrees
58%



Campus size
40 acres

Countries represented: 50+
Faculty of color: 62%
Average class size: 16
Students receiving aid: 10%
Endowment: \$61.7M

Annual operating budget: \$102M
Participation in Student Empowerment Initiatives: 100%
Campus organizations: 75+
Sports teams: 50+
Advance Placement courses: 25+



Overview

With approximately 2,200 students in PreK through 12th grades and 500+ employees, Gulliver Prep stands out as one of the largest independent schools in the nation. At Gulliver, students are equipped with a complete set of tools: knowledge to make sense of the world, skills to move through it with confidence, and the character to leave it better than they found it. With the space and support to find their spark, they are encouraged to discover what excites them and to forge their own unique path to success. Faculty and administrators benefit from a bounty of resources which means that, as long as the request is mission aligned, the answer is almost always yes. It's a place where students enjoy going to school – “fun” is the word Upper Schoolers most frequently used in a recent survey to describe the school – and where employees enjoy working. Despite its large size, people – whether students, employees or parents – feel a strong sense of community and school pride. As one parent observed, Gulliver is not a “pressure cooker” but rather a place with a holistic approach to education with the goal of raising “good humans.” The school embraces success as a measure of both what you achieve *and* who you become. With enormous applicant demand for every open seat, Gulliver is a school on the move, committed to being a nationally-recognized center for excellence in teaching and learning.

Originally founded in the 1920s by Arthur Gulliver as a seasonal schooling option for families spending the winter months in Miami, Gulliver entered the second stage of its history when Marian Krutulis bought the school in the 1950s. A visionary educator, Krutulis ran the school for more than 50 years, creating a warm environment where students could pursue their own paths to success. The school still operates under the mission Krutulis developed: “To create an [academic community](#) devoted to educational excellence, with a personal touch, that fulfills each student’s potential.” In 2000, Gulliver became a non-profit, thus launching the current phase of the school’s history. Frank Steel joined Gulliver as Head of School in 2014 and has played an instrumental role in its evolution into a leading independent school in Miami and South Florida. In 2018, given the school’s scale and complexity, the Board of Trustees decided to restructure school leadership as a President-Head of School model.

Gulliver students are empowered to think, create, and grow—with purpose—so they can step into their futures with confidence and courage. From age three to graduation, the school immerses students in signature programs and rich extracurriculars, so that they can discover what excites them and pursue success on their own terms. Gulliver offers an IB track in both Middle and Upper School, a wide array of AP courses, and Signature Academic Programs in architecture, engineering, biomedical sciences, digital mass media (which includes broadcast journalism), international diplomacy and legal studies, and international business and entrepreneurship. Robust individualized support is available through the Academic Resource Program, designed to develop skills and strategies to assist students in becoming more effective and successful in the classroom with increased independence. The EDGE Program offers smaller class sizes and personalized support with a focus on developing executive functioning skills such as organization, time management, and study skills.



Gulliver also boasts outstanding performing and visual arts programs, offering a wide range of opportunities from Primary to Upper School. Students have the opportunity to pursue their arts interests at a depth and level of sophistication unusual in a non-arts-focused school, and they excel in competitions on local, state and national levels – a testament to the quality of the programs. Athletics stands out as one of Gulliver’s longtime strengths, having been named The Miami Herald’s All-Sports Award winner for seven straight years and 23 times overall. Gulliver also claimed The Miami Herald’s Girls’ Major Sports Award in 2024-25, recognizing the top female athletics program in Miami Dade County. Each year, multiple teams win district and regional titles, and advance to the state championships. In its history, Gulliver has won 70 state championships, and the 2024 boys’ varsity soccer team won the national championship. The school fields more than 50 teams with Youth Sports programming for Lower School students as well. Gulliver also offers numerous clubs and extracurricular activities, and students regularly receive local, regional, and national accolades across various disciplines including the broadcast and print journalism, debate, Model UN, business, robotics, and more.

Gulliver enjoys a very diverse student body, over half of whom are foreign-born. Latin Americans make up the largest portion of the international population while Europe is also well represented as well as South and East Asia. Gulliver reflects the vibrant, eclectic community that is Miami, full of energy, cultural diversity, and a wide range of perspectives. New arrivals from New York, Chicago, and California, many drawn here during the pandemic, have diversified the population in recent years.

The transformation of the Gulliver’s physical plant embodies the school’s energetic, entrepreneurial spirit. In the past several years, the school has consolidated onto two campuses, one housing grades Prek3-8 and the other grades 9-12. Since 2021, the school has added several state-of-the-art buildings, including the 60,000 square foot Center for Student Life on the PK-8 Campus; 21,500 square foot Upper School Academic Building which features spaces that promote collaboration and classrooms designed for the school’s Signature Academic Programs; a new Athletic Center housing an indoor track, gymnasium, weight room, locker rooms, Spirit Store, and more; a new Tennis Complex and renovated athletic fields; and a new parking garage and Executive Offices. Still in the planning stages are a center for arts and innovation and additional Upper School renovations to create more flexible classrooms, especially for STEM subjects, more common spaces, and a new dining hall. Classroom renovations regularly take place on both campuses each summer.



This dynamic, innovative school is looking for a new Head of School to begin July 1, 2026. The Head of School reports to the President and has responsibility for the internal aspects of the school: the academic, co-curricular (including athletics and arts), and extracurricular programs PreK-12, student life, and the faculty and student-facing administration and staff. The position is akin to a provost in a university.

The Head of School will work closely with the President, fellow administrators, department chairs, and faculty to materialize the two central pillars of the recently approved strategic plan: The first is **Next Level Teaching and Learning**, which reflects Gulliver's commitment to being a nationally-recognized center for personalized achievement and academic excellence. The second is **Thriving Students**, which focuses on student health, wellness, and nurturing a community of belonging.

The school's push toward the next level has already begun. This includes transforming the compensation and benefits structure to retain outstanding faculty members and attract the very best talent from around the country. Additionally, 23 new positions have been created to reduce teacher course loads and provide more time for professional planning, collaboration, and tailored instruction tailored. The school is launching a first in the nation alliance with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, expanding access for teachers to the highest quality professional development resources in the field. And Gulliver will continue to develop a model for integrating AI into its PreK-12 scope and sequence, while simultaneously engaging in data-driven review of academic programming to ensure that all offerings provide students with future-ready learning experiences and appropriate levels of intellectual press.

With regard to the second pillar, Gulliver is paying close attention to student health, wellness, and connectedness as they navigate a complex social and technological landscape. The school has taken a values-based stance on shielding children from the dangers of substance use and social media, while working diligently to create a culture of ONE GULLIVER where every student is welcome, safe, and valued. A partnership with Stanford's Challenge Success program is already underway, with teacher/family/student design teams reviewing comprehensive survey data to identify priority areas that will reinforce academic achievement and healthy adolescent development. Gulliver believes that a vibrant, thriving school community is essential for student curiosity, courage, resilience, and achievement to flourish.



Opportunities and Challenges

Gulliver seeks a Head of School with a strong background in teaching and learning and curriculum innovation as well as a proven track record of promoting teacher growth and development. The person will need to be a leader who is collaborative and able to build and operate systems in a complex environment. Gulliver is looking for an educational visionary who is able to execute on that vision.

Specific challenges and opportunities include:

- Developing and supporting faculty to deliver innovative, engaging curricula in academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities;
- Strengthening teacher evaluation and creating pathways for faculty career advancement;
- Creating character and leadership programs for students;
- In a very diverse community, continuing to foster a truly inclusive community of belonging, confident pluralism, and appreciation for the vibrance of Gulliver;
- Continuing to strengthen a culture of excellence;
- Thinking in innovative ways about teaching and learning including integrating AI into faculty practices;
- Leading a comprehensive, school-wide review of the curriculum;
- Developing learning opportunities beyond campus including co-op/internship programs, service learning, and travel;
- Leading a review of student wellness including student tech use and a process to define a “Thriving Student” at Gulliver;
- Strengthening professional development in pursuit of these goals, including capitalizing on a partnership between Gulliver and the Harvard School of Education;
- Leading a large, diverse faculty and administration in three divisions spread across two campuses with caring, transparency, collaboration, and decisiveness;
- Maintaining and strengthening the strong sense of community especially across the two campuses;
- Continuing to embrace a culture and program where opportunity abounds and every student can write their own story;
- Promoting an environment that values a range of perspectives while staying true to the school’s core values;
- Facility for engaging with key stakeholders, including donors and trustees.



Qualifications and Personal Attributes

Gulliver seeks in its next Head of School an inspiring educational leader who can execute on vision; someone who is present in the life of the school and promotes community through building relationships; someone comfortable working in an ethnically diverse environment who is committed to hearing all voices and ensuring that everyone feels they belong. The most compelling candidates will offer the following qualifications and qualities:

Professional Qualifications

- Significant experience with a large and complex educational organization;
- Personal and professional alignment with the school's mission of inclusivity including serving a broad range of students;
- Strength in recruiting, hiring, supporting, leading, and retaining talented, broadly diverse, and mission-aligned faculty and staff;
- The ability to articulate vision and strategy and the tactical skills necessary to manage the systems and processes necessary to implement strategy;
- Comprehensive understanding of the highest standards in teaching and learning and the ability to set vision for the next generation of best practices.

Leadership Style and Personal Qualities

- A strategic and innovative thinker who understands the interplay of internal and external systems, constituents, and priorities;
- A community-builder whose style is collaborative when possible and decisive when necessary, demonstrating approachability, responsiveness, trustworthiness, and transparency as well as a commitment to respecting multiple perspectives;
- A history of thoughtful innovation and a sensitive approach to change;
- The confidence to provide strong leadership, paired with the humility to advocate for new ideas, invite alternative perspectives, welcome feedback, and engage in challenging conversations with grace;
- Warm and approachable demeanor and the ability to communicate with clarity in order to engage and inspire a wide range of audiences;
- Curiosity and a high degree of cultural competency;
- The courage to make difficult choices, upholding the highest standards of integrity;
- Excitement to embrace the uniqueness of Miami professionally and personally; and
- Eagerness to engage actively and joyfully with students, parents, and faculty and staff and a willingness to prioritize visibility amidst the demands of a busy professional schedule.

Learn More

Click on the links below to learn more about Gulliver Prep.

[School Website](#)

[Virtual Campus Tour](#)

[School History](#)

[About Miami, Florida](#)

[Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#)



To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position
- A current résumé

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