



Position Listing: Principal

St. Francis Xavier, Arizona's only Catholic, Jesuit elementary school, seeks dynamic, faith-filled, and highly qualified educational leaders who desire to serve the school community as its next principal.

About the Position:

The next principal of St. Francis Xavier will be an innovative and inspiring leader with a lived commitment to the mission and values of Catholic, Jesuit education. The successful candidate will be fluent with current educational research and related scholarship but also possess the interpersonal skills necessary to lead a vibrant community of students, faculty, staff and parents. Candidates must possess excellent communication skills; the administrative and organizational capacity required to manage effectively all school operations; and the ability to animate benefactors to support the mission of St. Francis Xavier. Finally, he or she will be a joy-filled, practicing Catholic who embraces the privilege of nurturing the spiritual formation not only of students but faculty and parents as well.

The principal will report directly to the Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Jesuit Parish. Candidates should be prepared to begin in July 2019.

About St. Francis Xavier Elementary School:

As the largest ministry of St. Francis Xavier Parish, the elementary school fosters a learning environment whose community members appreciate God's presence in the world and respond generously in action to God's love. In the Ignatian tradition, St. Francis Xavier sees spiritual formation as integrally connected to the academic, social, emotional, and physical development of the whole child. The excellent educational traditions of St. Francis Xavier are strongly supported by the families in the community, many of whose roots at the school go back three generations. St. Francis Xavier challenges students to embark on a lifelong journey of discovery of their God-given gifts and to share these gifts in service to God.

Fidelity to mission, strong leadership, and widespread community support have led St. Francis Xavier to the enviable position it currently occupies in Arizona's educational landscape. As a result of a recently completed campus reconstruction, the school now enjoys brand new classrooms with

state-of-the-art technology infrastructure and a multi-use gymnasium/cafeteria/performing arts space. The expansion and improvement of school facilities mirrors the growth and improvement of school programming. In the last ten years, under the leadership of its outgoing principal, the school has increased both the size and the diversity of its student body, increased the financial aid available to students, developed a comprehensive campus ministry program, strengthened its academic standards, and has become a recognized leader for the way it cares for each of its members. Notable examples would include the school's Cura Personalis Program and its inclusion efforts.

The Cura Personalis Program maintains an on-campus food pantry and additionally supports families in need with housing assistance, medical care, school supplies, uniforms, and extra-curricular fees. St. Francis has also established itself as a school at the forefront of inclusive education. The Education Resource Specialist works with families and teachers to ensure that the school meets the unique needs of each student. As a result, students with a wide variety of learning styles and challenges contribute to and benefit from the learning environment at St. Francis Xavier.

In the fall of 2018, the school completed its accreditation review with the Western Catholic Education Association. The visiting committee enthusiastically endorsed the school's exhaustive self-study and, in their summative comments, offered these impressions of St. Francis:

- A school where Catholic values, Ignatian spirit, joy, and a love of learning permeate the school.
- An inclusive, welcoming, safe and encouraging environment where teachers are deeply committed to their roles as Catholic educators. Teachers should feel very affirmed for their consistent and authentic desire to differentiate learning and provide a variety of teaching methodologies in their classrooms.
- The parent community wants to model Ignatian spirituality and give of themselves in order to support the mission and greater good of all community members.
- St. Francis Xavier's commitment to *cura personalis* is admirable and should serve as a model to schools across the nation.

To Apply:

Candidates interested in this position must complete the Diocese of Phoenix online application [which can be found at this link](#). The deadline for applications is March 1.

For more information about St. Francis Xavier Jesuit Parish and School, visit www.sfxphx.org or <https://school.sfxphx.org>.

A video at [this link](#), recently produced for St. Francis' 90th Anniversary, also provides important context for this faith community.