

CHAMINADE College preparatory





West Hills, CA Independent, Marianist Catholic Co-educational, College Preparatory www.chaminade.org

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Chaminade College Preparatory seeks a faith-filled and visionary Catholic educational leader to serve as its next high school principal.

Chaminade is a co-educational, independent, Marianist Catholic college preparatory school serving nearly 2,000 students in grades 6-12 on two campuses in the San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles. The high school is located in West Hills, California and serves 1,280 students in grades 9-12 while the middle school serves approximately 700 students in Chatsworth. Chaminade seeks a Catholic educator whose visionary and dynamic leadership will promote the mission and values of the school and ensure that it continues to provide an excellent educational program.

The Opportunity

Chaminade is one school with two campuses and two campus administrations (middle school and high school). Chaminade's high school principal works closely with the president, middle school principal, and other members of the executive leadership team to ensure a seamless educational experience while maintaining the distinct educational experiences of the high school.

The high school principal has primary responsibility for the overall operation of the high school and must be committed to Chaminade's mission, philosophy, and core values, as well as the Characteristics of Marianist Education. The principal supports and facilitates the policies and vision established by the president of Chaminade College Preparatory.

The principal collaborates with faculty and administration in the development, refining, and delivery of high quality instruction and enhancing the overall instructional experience through collaboration, mentoring, and modeling best practices for instruction.

One challenge in today's educational landscape is to maintain a high quality overall educational experience while looking to the future of education and the inevitable changes that Chaminade will need to make to ensure it remains a vibrant learning community. The principal will work with faculty, staff, and administration to develop, articulate, and implement a pedagogical vision focused on innovation, professional development, and staff and program evaluation in order to ensure that Chaminade remains a leader in Catholic education.



Professional Qualities and Qualifications

Chaminade's next high school principal will be a student-focused, visionary educator with experience in secondary school administration. The ideal candidate will embrace the Chaminade community and be an energizing and inspirational individual with strong interpersonal skills who delegates effectively while ensuring accountability. The individual will be a successful secondary school leader and strategic thinker with the ability and willingness to work effectively with school leaders to support a culture of learning and high expectations. In addition, Chaminade is seeking candidates with the following qualities:

- 1. A deep understanding of and commitment to Marianist Catholic education with the ability to articulate the school's educational philosophy and mission to inspire and motivate constituencies.
- 2. An understanding of current trends in Catholic and secondary education, with proven experience enhancing strong academic and extra-curricular programs, student faith formation, and development and implementation of faculty and staff professional development programs designed to continually improve student programs and to achieve desired student outcomes.
- 3. A willingness to work effectively and collaboratively with the president, executive and campus level leadership teams, faculty, and staff, investing time in people to build a true partnership for the school.
- 4. An understanding of organizational dynamics and systems to ensure strong collaboration among executive administrators. The principal must understand and be effective operating in a two-campus president-principal leadership model.
- 5. A commitment to diversity, multiculturalism, and globalism while demonstrating the desire and skill to work with all members of the Chaminade community in a meaningful and genuine manner.

- 6. The desire and ability to be present, visible and engaged with all Chaminade constituents.
- 7. An effective communicator across all campus constituencies including Chaminade faculty, staff, and administration as well as parents, students, alumni, and community members so that these groups are appropriately informed and engaged with the school.
- 8. An effective decision-maker able to balance the good of the whole community and its individuals.
- 9. An understanding of the business fundamentals related to running a school division.
- 10. A master's degree or equivalent is required. A master's degree in education or educational administration or related field is strongly desired.
- 11. Prior experience designing, developing, and administering high school curricular, cocurricular, and extra-curricular programs as well as experience supervising and evaluating faculty and staff is required.
- 12. Prior experience as a high school teacher is desired.

Personal Qualities

The high school principal will be a committed Catholic with a living faith who will serve as the high school community leader, willing to immerse himself/herself in the life of the school. This educational leader will be mission-focused and able to motivate faculty and earn their respect as an effective educational leader of the high school.

Chaminade is seeking a principal who:

- 1. Is warm, humble, approachable, and pastoral in nature.
- 2. Builds relationships and connects easily with parents, teachers and students, and is adept at drawing from the collective wisdom of the community.
- 3. Possesses strong communication skills and is comfortable with reaching out to others.
- 4. Is open-minded with a willingness to listen to and consider different perspectives.
- 5. Is energetic, confident, and has strong emotional intelligence and integrity.
- 6. Will love and appreciates Chaminade's culture, history, and traditions.
- 7. Understands and connects with teenage students.





About Chaminade College Preparatory

Chaminade College Preparatory is an independent Catholic school sponsored by the Marianist Province of the United States, operating with the blessing of the Archbishop of the Los Angeles Archdiocese. The school follows a president-principal administrative model and the high school principal reports to the president. The high school principal is a member of the president's executive council which encompasses executive leaders across all operational areas of the school.

Chaminade's legacy spans more than 65 years of excellence in Marianist Catholic education. Chaminade provides a rich and rigorous academic curriculum, an integrated faith formation program, a wide variety of extracurricular activities, and an environment of support, compassion, inclusivity, and mutual respect.

Chaminade operates on two campuses. The high school is located in West Hills, a neighborhood in the western San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles, California. Students come from the greater San Fernando Valley area (and beyond) and represent a mixture of racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds. Chaminade's middle school and administrative offices are located about eight miles away, in Chatsworth. The school is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA).

Chaminade provides a unique seven-year educational experience for students in grades 6-12. Approximately 80% of 8th grade students matriculate to the high school each year comprising over half of the incoming 9th grade class. The leadership, faculty, and staff of both campuses work collaboratively as equals to design and deliver a seamless seven-year experience in academic, co-curricular, extra-curricular, and support programs.

Chaminade's high school campus is situated on 23 acres and boasts expansive and wellmaintained facilities including classrooms, library, art studios, Condon Family Center for Science and Technology, Bob Hope Student Center, and Tutor Family Center for the Performing Arts, which houses specialized learning spaces and a 365 seat traditional theater. Athletics serves 24 sports encompassing 49 teams. Athletic facilities include Vukelich Field, Uribe Sports Center (gym), baseball field, wrestling facility, fitness center, sports medicine center, and use of middle school softball field. Chaminade rents tennis and swim facilities.



Mission Statement

We inspire young people to love, learn, and lead through our Catholic and Marianist traditions of a living faith, academic excellence, and moral responsibility.

Vision Statement

Chaminade College Preparatory graduates are prepared, inspired and equipped to:

- Share God's love by caring for others and seeking justice and peace.
- Learn, adapt and grow with the world around them.
- Become servant leaders and positive contributors to society.

Core Values

- Love of God
- Discipleship of Jesus
- Mary as a Model
- Service to Others
- Student-Centered
- Inclusivity
- Leadership
- Innovation

Marianist Heritage and Education

In 1849 members of the Society of Mary came to the United States and expanded their ministry in education. Chaminade is part of the Marianist Province of the United States which sponsors 18 secondary schools and three universities. The Marianists are on six continents and serve in 34 countries.

Chaminade College Preparatory prides itself in its mission and identity as a Catholic school in the Marianist tradition, which prepares students to love, learn, and lead. All Marianistsponsored schools aim to transform their communities by animating the Marianist Charism, to be formed by Mary for the mission of Christ, through the Characteristics of Marianist Education:

- Educate for Formation in Faith
- Educate in Family Spirit
- Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace
- Educate for Adaptation and Change
- Provide an Integral, Quality Education

Maintaining Marianist sponsorship at Chaminade is of utmost importance as lay educators work hard to preserve their Marianist heritage and continue to animate the charism in the school community. As a result, all Chaminade employees, both faculty and staff, consider themselves Marianist Educators who form both Catholic and non-Catholic students by encouraging them to deepen their personal faith and character development in academic classes, extra-curriculars, retreats, liturgies and a



comprehensive service-learning program. All academic, co-curricular, extra-curricular, student support services and administrative departments are called to frame their programs and service through the prism of the CMEs.

Although Chaminade is distinctively Catholic, students are encouraged to grow in their own faith tradition. This allows for students to engage in cooperative and constructive conversations about the unique and meaningful aspects of other faith traditions, which is critical to the richness of the inclusive family spirit environment on campus.



The Program

The mission of Chaminade College Preparatory and the Charism of the Marianists are reflected in the challenging college preparatory curriculum and overall educational experience Chaminade provides. The school's promise of "love, learn and lead" is dedicated to the discovery and development of the whole person-spiritual, social, emotional, intellectual, creative and physical. The college preparatory curriculum of faith formation, athletics, arts, student activities, and service learning are designed to instill intellectual, spiritual, character, and leadership qualities.



To fulfill its mission, the school maintains a strong and balanced offering of required and elective academic and enrichment courses. The focus is on educating the whole child, based on their personality and interests. Advanced Placement courses and honors classes are offered to qualifying students. Course offerings are designed to prepare students for success in matriculating into higher education. To that end, one of the program highlights is AP Capstone, which is a two-year program approved by the College Board.

Chaminade emphasizes the personal and spiritual development of its young people and students receive guidance through the collaborative work of the Religion Department, the Office of Campus Ministry, and the Office of Mission Integration and Strategic Initiatives. In addition to a four-year religion curriculum, a comprehensive retreat program is offered for all grade levels designed to help students grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, themselves, and others. Campus Ministry also provides the school community with the celebration of Masses and prayer services to help students live out their faith and embody Catholic, Marianist values. Lastly, Chaminade students participate in a service-learning program that connects them to a variety of opportunities and stimulates their gifts and talents to be servant leaders and agents of change in their communities.

All Chaminade students are equipped with tablet PCs and have access to specialized educational software. Chaminade invests significant resources to support its faculty in the effective use of technology in the classroom and all classes are facilitated through Blackboard Learning Management The school's highly respected Svstem. Robotics program was invited to pilot the International Robotics Honor Society and twelve Chaminade students were inducted in the Society's first year. Chaminade recently launched a high school engineering curriculum supported by a newly designed STEM classroom and is committed to growing its STEM, Makerspace, Robotics, and other evolving educational technology programs.

Athletics are a vital component to the holistic education of the Chaminade student with over 750 students participating in one or more sports. The program encompasses the areas of spiritual, social, emotional, intellectual, creative and physical growth for student athletes and emphasize the principles of positive sporting behavior. Students learn teamwork, sacrifice, perseverance, resilience, sportsmanship and skill building. In the past eight years, high school athletic achievements include four state titles, 21 state championships, 18 CIF championships and 50 Mission League championships.

Cultivating creativity is essential to learning in today's world. Whether it is through studio art, film, dance, digital design, theater, instrumental or choral music, faculty inspire students to pursue their talents and interests across the many arts disciplines. The Chaminade Players have received Jerry Herman awards for various theater productions. Its music programs are consistently recognized and Chaminade's film students have received multiple awards.

Numerous clubs and activities that meet both during and after school round out the extracurricular offerings at Chaminade. There are more than 60 clubs and organizations at the high school, including Live Stream Crew, Speech and Debate, Student Council, and the award winning Eagle Engineering (robotics). Chaminade's highly respected Mock Trial program consistently wins the Southern California Mock Trial Championships.

Long-held traditions are an important aspect of the Chaminade experience. Students look forward to such events as Homecoming, Back-to-School Dance and the Thanksgiving Food Drive. In the spring, the school hosts a Special Olympics event, coordinated with the Los Angeles Unified School District. Eagle Mania takes place one week before graduation with Regal Eagle competitions throughout the campus. Seniors participate in the annual Gala fundraiser through performance and volunteerism, and they start and finish their senior year with the Senior Sunrise and Senior Sunset.





The School Community

Students speak of the importance, not only of academics, but also of the "family spirit" at Chaminade. They value their relationships with their teachers and know that their teachers care about them deeply. The students value the numerous opportunities they have for learning and activities and that "you aren't here for just one thing." They appreciate the diversity of the student body, and that "personal expression is important." Forging strong connections with one another through academics, athletics, the arts and peer leadership programs is paramount to them.

The faculty and staff at Chaminade are a highly committed group of educators, whose shared vision and sense of community are vital components of the school's culture. Eightytwo percent of the faculty have graduate degrees and many have enjoyed a long tenure at the school. This is a collegial faculty, with much good will toward each other. They value the close relationship between themselves and the students as well as among themselves. They are proud of being the exemplars of student-centered teaching for the enthusiastic and engaged students at Chaminade.

In Fall 2013, Chaminade welcomed its first group of students from China. The International Student Program enriches the multi-cultural and global aspects of a Chaminade education for all students. The principal partners with Chaminade's Director of International Programs in the design and promotion of this program. Each year, several Chaminade leaders participate in trips to China for new student recruitment and outreach to parents of current students. Today, the high school targets enrollment of approximately 40 Chinese students each year. The school believes in the value of immersion for its Chinese students not just at school, but in a home setting as well by employing a homestay model. Chaminade engages the services of a third party for recruitment and homestay services.

The School's History

Chaminade High School for Boys was founded in 1952 when the Marianists purchased Cheviot Hills Military Academy in West Los Angeles. Because the Cheviot Hills property was in need of costly renovations and retrofitting, in 1961 the Marianists moved Chaminade to what is now its high school campus in West Hills, California. Chaminade continued to grow and in 1969 added 7th and 8th grade on property in Chatsworth. In 1972 Chaminade went co-ed, welcoming its first class of female students. In 1989 Chaminade added 6th grade to complete a two-campus, seven-year program of academic excellence. As part of its master plan, Chaminade has continued to grow and develop facilities at both of its campuses in order to meet program needs. Most recently, in March 2018, Chaminade acquired a shopping center adjacent to the West Hills campus, allowing the school to think boldly and creatively about future facilities and the programmatic needs of students.

Search Process

Chaminade College Preparatory 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:**

Risa Oganesoff Heersche <u>rheersche@edu-directions.com</u>

Mathew Heersche, Ed.D. <u>mheersche@edu-directions.com</u>

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

Candidates must submit the following documents.

- Cover letter explaining their interest and qualifications for the principal position at Chaminade College Preparatory
- Brief personal statement (Further information, expectations and guidelines will be provided to assist the candidate.)
- Current resume
- Names, email addresses and cell phone numbers of five references
- One or two written recommendation letters

All inquiries will be held in confidence.



