



HOLY SPIRIT

Regional Catholic School

Leadership Search

WELCOME

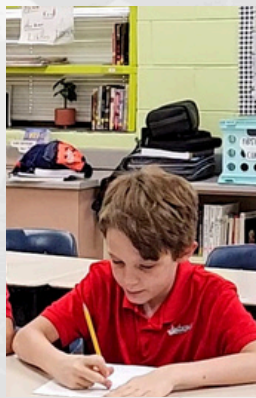
to



About Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School, in Huntsville, Alabama serves over 450 students in grades PreK-4 through 8th grade. Our student to teacher ratio is 16:1, which provides our students with quality, individualized learning. Our mission is to provide an education strongly rooted in Catholic values, reflecting each student's unique qualities and promoting excellence in the whole person.

When Holy Spirit was founded in 1960, the Sisters of Mercy served as the staff. Our school continued to grow and add classrooms, but in 1989, a tornado destroyed both the school and the church. In 1990, the doors to the school reopened with a brand new and much larger campus. In 2020, we opened a state-of-the-art lab for teaching STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics). This year we are thrilled to be celebrating 65 years of Catholic education at Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School.



Our strong academics ensure the development of our students to be lifelong learners. By utilizing their individual talents and abilities, pupils are able to better develop their cognitive, social, emotional, cultural, and physical skills. These skills will help them reach their full potential and thereby become best prepared for their future educational career. We prioritize the Faith throughout our school and attend weekly Mass joyfully. We offer athletics for all students in grades K - 8, such as soccer, basketball, volleyball, and more. The Arts are celebrated here through visual art, music, and band, and we have several clubs that students can join. We believe in the development of the whole person and are thrilled to be able to offer so many opportunities in which our students can grow and thrive.

A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR, FR. RICK CHENAULT



As the Pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Church, I am delighted that you are considering applying to join the Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School Community as the principal. Our parish school has a long tradition of forming students in the Catholic faith, inspiring academic excellence and service towards others. We promote strong faith development for the families who live and worship here.

Currently the school is celebrating its 65th anniversary. Having just arrived here this year, I am both humbled by the good work that has been done and excited for the work still left to be accomplished. Education involves partnering with families to promote authentic human flourishing: spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially. Our success is measured by helping students to be authentic disciples and lifelong learners.

Huntsville is a special city which brings in families from all over due to the space and defense industry. This is an exciting time for our parish and school as we strive to meet the needs of this rapidly growing community. There is a very patriotic spirit as many of our students have family members connections to the military. I am amazed at the involvement of the parents as seen through the work of the PTO, and the Foundation – our endowment organization.

We are so thankful that you are discerning this position of leadership at our school. It is an invitation to minister to our students and staff as a witness of the Catholic Christian faith in action and to help our students prepare for greatness. The principal is a close collaborator of the pastor and is one that will help to foster an integrated approach, leveraging the gifts of the school and parish. I believe that this task is only possible with God's grace. Every good leader must be filled with the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit. Our motto should be to follow the Blessed Mother's wise counsel, "Do whatever my Son tells you to do."

A successful Catholic school leader is a teacher modeled on the ultimate teacher, Jesus. An effective Catholic school leader is one who will collaborate with others to help the school fulfill its mission, foster leadership within the school community, and help students reach their fullest potential in Christ. We seek a leader who is open and excited to become a part of our community, shares our mission, and is invested in revitalizing the faith connected to the mission of Catholic education for our families, students, faculty, staff, and the wider community. As Pope Saint Paul VI stated, "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."

It is our pleasure to work in communion with our parents to help in the formation of our students, and we depend on a good leader like you to help further the professional and faith formation of our dedicated faculty and staff as well as provide support to our families. At our school, we all work together in this mission. Thank you for your willingness to consider this invitation. May God bless you abundantly.



OUR MISSION

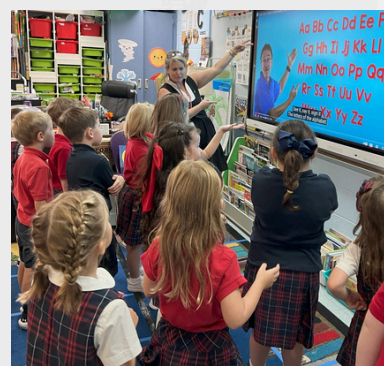


Our Mission

The mission of Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School is to provide an education strongly rooted in Catholic values, reflecting each student's unique qualities and promoting excellence in the whole person.

Our Vision

Our vision is to challenge students to be faith-filled individuals as they discover and utilize their gifts and talents through academic success and service to others.



Our Beliefs

- We commit to students' faith, academic and personal growth in a caring and loving environment.
- We know that every student is a child of God and is called to develop their gifts and talents and share them with the community.
- We encourage students to practice self-discipline and responsibility in their daily lives.
- We work with all of our stakeholders, through the Holy Spirit, to facilitate a place that helps students to know that God loves them and is always with them.
- We support extra-curricular opportunities in athletics, fine arts, and science to give students that chance to broaden their minds and challenge them physically.

OUR STRENGTHS



Strong Catholic Values: The Catholic faith is integrated throughout student life, with strong parish connections, traditions, physical access to the Catholic Church, joy in worship, and multiple opportunities for active engagement in the Catholic faith including weekly Mass.

Supporting Each Student's Unique Qualities: Academic excellence and innovative learning are hallmarks of an education at Holy Spirit. This is found through the school's: Rigorous curriculum, STREAM, fine arts, and cross-curricular programs foster independence, critical thinking, and preparation for high school.

Dedicated and Collaborative Faculty: Skilled, creative teachers are supported in their practice and have become more innovative.

Great Campus with Many Opportunities for Learning and Growth: Holy Spirit has a lot of room and spaces that provide opportunities for student flourishing. The campus has great potential for multiple learning styles. The Catholic Church is on campus and provides opportunities for the students to grow in the Catholic faith. There are also modern classrooms, access to labs, dedicated spaces for the Fine Arts, ample athletic spaces, and an adequate technology infrastructure to support multiple learning needs are in place at the school.

Diverse Community: Holy Spirit serves many families in the Huntsville area. There are tremendous opportunities to work with the local parishes, local Catholic high school, and community to serve a fast growing population.

Welcome to Huntsville



Huntsville, AL made the Top Ten Places to Live list in 2025.

Huntsville, AL, one of the fastest growing cities in America. Known as the Rocket City, it is a hub for innovation and technology, and has one of the highest Ph.D. graduates per capita.

Our school is just minutes away from the center of Huntsville, where you will find the arts, culture, concerts, museums, and more, such as the famous US Space and Rocket Center, the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, and the Twickenham Historic District. There is also lots of natural beauty found nearby; for example, Mount Sano State Park, pictured above.

Huntsville is less than two hours away from “Music City” Nashville, and 1.5 hours from Birmingham, known for its rich history in the Civil Rights Movement. A short drive brings you to Ave Maria Grotto at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman and also the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville.

Huntsville is renowned for its strong community roots, lower cost of living, and family friendliness, among other great qualities.



THE PRINCIPALSHIP



Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School seeks a faith-centered, visionary principal who combines deep Catholic conviction with practical, results-oriented leadership to lead its PK4–8th grade school on the campus of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Huntsville, Alabama. The ideal candidate will be a practicing, active Catholic who can deepen the school's Catholic identity, strengthen ties with local parishes, and advance academic and operational excellence while nurturing the whole child. The principal will steward a school grounded in Catholic intellectual tradition, building on a strong reputation for high-quality Catholic education. This leader will partner collaboratively with faculty, families, parish leaders, various school groups (like the School Advisory Council, Parent-Teacher Organization, and the Holy Spirit Foundation) to sustain and grow the school's mission, nurture its community, and secure its long-term financial stability.



ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS/MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: Our principal serves as the school's spiritual, instructional, organizational, entrepreneurial, and community leader.



As spiritual leader, the principal serves as the chief witness of the evangelizing mission of the school assuring that the Catholic faith is lived out in all aspects of school life. The principal collaborates with the families of the school in fostering relationship with Christ for the students; supports faith formation activities for the staff and family; and advances the unique Catholic culture of the school.



As instructional leader, the principal assures that teaching and learning are connected to excellence, unique to the community being served and flow out from the Catholic intellectual traditions. The principal plans, prepares, and evaluates the instructional program; encourages instruction which meets the various needs and abilities of the students; and facilitates the professional growth of faculty and staff.



As organizational leader, the principal selects, supervises, and evaluates staff; collaborates with the school advisory board and local pastors in strategic planning efforts; ensures effective and relevant use of personnel resources; works with the school board to implement policies, budgets, and other institutional practices; and assures that the unique nature of the school is considered in all decisions.

As entrepreneurial leader, the principal is responsible for implementing good business practices, development and enrollment efforts, human resource/personnel management, professional formation, facilities maintenance and enhancement, institutional advancement, and contemporary communication.

As community leader, the principal works with the faculty and staff to develop and encourage broad student participation in the total school program; keeps the local parishes and community informed about the school's programs; and is responsible for communicating the philosophy of the school to the public.



EXPECTED QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS



The ideal candidate is a practicing, active Catholic who understands, models and advances the mission of Catholic education and will strengthen Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School's faith life, deepen the school culture and community, encourage academic excellence while ensuring long-term financial sustainability. They will hold a Master's degree in Educational Leadership or equivalent degree and will hold current principal certification in Alabama or is willing to obtain it. The successful candidate will demonstrate leadership experience in educational settings and will build on existing strengths of the school and parish community with humility, clarity, and collaborative leadership.

Faith and Mission:

- Demonstrates clear understanding of the benefits and distinctives of Catholic education and philosophy
- Experience with an understanding of parish-school dynamics; able to further integrate faith across all aspects of school life and align with the changing demographics of surrounding Catholic parishes
- Deep experience of partnering and collaborating with various stakeholders in the school, parish, and diocese to deepen sacramental, liturgical, and service opportunities



Instructional Leadership:

- Proven record of improving student growth and outcomes through data-driven and innovative instruction, integrating hand-on STEM labs and other instructional technology
- Expertise in teacher coaching and professional development to support increased teacher retention and engagement
- Experience with curriculum oversight to create coherence across grade levels and support differentiation for diverse learners





EXPECTED QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS



Strategic and operational competence:

- Experience in collaborating with school and parish stakeholders to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to lay the foundation for Holy Spirit's future
- Experience in developing stakeholder buy-in and clear roles and responsibilities or implementing strategic initiatives that bring the strategic plan to life
- Strong organizational leadership skills to ensure compliance with laws, accreditation standards, diocesan policies, with a focus on safety and security of students and facilities in a busy urban setting

Financial stewardship and advancement:

- Demonstrated leadership in admissions and enrollment to ensure a strong student body and healthy pool of prospective students
- Experience with budget stewardship to secure school's fiscal health and sustainability
- Excellence in cultivating and maintaining deep donor connections to secure long-term financial gifts for the school's endowment fund

Community and Cultural Builder:

- Ability to foster a welcoming, inclusive Catholic school culture that reflects local parish partnerships and changing community demographics
- Inviting presence to build trust and engage effectively with faculty, families, parish leaders, school advisory groups, alumni, and donors
- Experience with deepening family engagement in school community
- Superior written and verbal communication

THE SEARCH PROCESS



Holy Spirit Regional Catholic School is proud to partner with Mission Driven Catholic for this leadership search. Mission Driven Catholic works to revitalize Catholic schools to fully embrace their mission to be centers of evangelization for students and their families.

All interested applicants should forward a letter or interest, and a resume or CV to:

MISSION DRIVEN CATHOLIC

Attn: Dr. Daniel Baillargeon, Recruiter

d.baillargeon@missiondrivencatholic.com

