



Loyola Blakefield

President

Towson, MD

Our Mission

Loyola Blakefield, a Catholic, college preparatory school, established by the Jesuits and imbued with the spirit of Ignatius Loyola, forms men to serve with and for others. The Loyola student is preparing to graduate as a man of integrity, who, because he strives “to find God in all things,” is open to growth, intellectually ambitious, religious, loving, and committed to diversity and doing justice.

Introduction

Loyola Blakefield is a Catholic, Jesuit, college preparatory school founded in 1852, for boys in grades six through twelve, located in Towson, Maryland. The school is part of a network of more the sixty other Jesuit high schools across the United States that seek to educate men and women for others. The school traces its history through a 450-year legacy of educational excellence that dates back to the first school founded by St. Ignatius Loyola at Messina, Italy, in 1548. Visiting campus, one gains a sense of the history and tradition that have sustained the school, as well as the energy and enthusiasm that have kept Loyola Blakefield forging into the 21st century. From the first students in 1852 and the first class to enter the Blakefield campus in 1934, to the newest generation of Dons, Loyola Blakefield’s mission has remained to graduate men of conscience, competence, and compassion.

Latin for “care for the whole person,” cura personalis was a call for the kind of care Jesuit superiors were to give their subordinates, a call to care for the entire person – the entire gift of life from God given to us. Loyola Blakefield educators know and respect each student for the unique mind and heart that he is. The core of this philosophy is the personal concern for the individual. We talk about it, we practice it, and we teach it.

Student Life and Campus Community

Loyola Blakefield offers a challenging college preparatory curriculum that provides a broad range of major course offerings, including honors and advanced placement courses, complemented by a selection of enriching electives and co-curricular activities. There are 17 interscholastic sports programs at Loyola Blakefield, as well as musical and dramatic performing arts ensembles, and many clubs and student organizations. Going beyond a traditional high school curriculum, amidst its strong STEM programs, the Loyola Blakefield Cyber Science Informatics is recognized across the globe for its leadership in cyber security training, career ideation, and innovative approach to inspiring digital citizenship.



Ignatian service and spiritual formation, in the Jesuit tradition, is the hallmark of a Loyola education. The community is called to actively participate in the liturgies of the Church through ritual action, prayer, silence, and song. Students, faculty, and staff gather once a

month to celebrate liturgy as a united community of faith. Each afternoon, the community pauses its work to show gratitude for the day's blessings by praying the Examen at 1:45 p.m. An early-morning optional Mass is offered on most school days.

Along with this pattern of reflection and spirituality, the yearly grade-level student retreat experience culminates with Kairos during the junior or senior year. Led by students for students, Kairos is filled with talks and exercises centering on the revelation of God's love as we experience it in our lives. Over 2,000 Dons have attended a Kairos retreat, and many of them cite it as a memorable and deeply transformational moment in their lives.

Loyola is known by many in the Baltimore metropolitan area as an outstanding all-male Catholic school in the Jesuit tradition. Therefore, it is not surprising that the school has garnered many accolades.

- 2022 "Best Private School (*The Baltimore Sun*)
- 2022 "Best Private High School (*The Daily Record*)
- Annually recognized by *The Baltimore Sun* as one of the region's "Top Workplaces"

The Campus



Sacred & Innovative Grounds

A glance at the school's website reveals the variety and beauty of the campus, with stunning architecture and ample playing fields throughout the 65-acre campus. Recent major campus projects include the Bolte-Breschi Athletics Complex and St. Ignatius Hall, the primary home of 6-8 grade students.

Strengths & Opportunities

In response to a community-wide survey, Loyola Blakefield parents, faculty, staff, board members, and alumni praised the school in many areas. Among these cited strengths are:

- The mission and vision of the school are deeply rooted in its Ignatian identity. Respondents regularly cited the religious setting, character building, faith-based approach, and spiritual development. At the top of the list was the motto about developing "Men for Others."
- Academic program excellence, with a thoughtful balance between tradition and innovation, and high praise for the school's faculty.
- The school "gets" boys, providing appropriate structure and discipline, supporting the whole student, and providing activities that are wholesome and fun.
- A wide array of excellent extracurricular opportunities.
- A culture based on respect for others.

- Focus on student body diversity.
- The school's deep tradition and history, with a "brotherhood" among students and alumni that lasts a lifetime.
- Commitment to service activities at every grade level.
- Impressive and continually enhanced buildings and grounds.
- The overall excellence and reputation of the school.

Beyond these strengths, community members also share common thoughts about the opportunities that lie ahead. Among those are:

- Ongoing support of the social and emotional needs of students amid an ever-changing world.
- Maintenance of high academic standards and dedication to an ambitious code of conduct.
- The opportunity to deepen student and community member's sense of belonging through the advancement of mission-aligned DEI programming.
- A commitment to ensuring access and affordability to attract qualified applicants who will enrich the school community with their gifts and talents.

Loyola makes a lasting impression on its students. The education it provides is not just academic. Loyola truly live up to Men for Others. I graduated decades ago and the bonds I formed there stay with me today. It was truly the greatest experience of my life.

– Loyola Blakefield alumnus

Through its demonstrated commitment to advancing all aspects of the school's mission, Loyola is primed to continue to lead in these areas, especially as it aligns itself with its next bold leader.

The Position

The President of Loyola Blakefield is the visionary and strategic leader of the school.

Missioned by the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus as the Director of the Work, the



President provides clear leadership to ensure that Loyola Blakefield's mission and values remain consistent with the Roman Catholic faith and the Society of Jesus. As such, the Society calls the President and Director of the Work "to be suitable for a position of public leadership in the work of the Society of Jesus and the Catholic Church." With the approval of the USA East Province, the President reports directly to the Board of Trustees and is

responsible for the spiritual, educational, and financial success of the school today and in the future. The President balances day-to-day responsibilities and the management of the school alongside engagement with the Board, alumni, partners, and the broader community.

In all of this work, the President creates and maintains a collegial culture categorized by cooperation, collaboration, communication, and interdependency.

The President's primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Fidelity to and Stewardship of the Jesuit Identity

- Maintaining and nurturing the Catholic, Jesuit identity of Loyola Blakefield.
- Serving as the school's liaison with the Society of Jesus through the Provincial of the USA East Province and the Jesuit Schools Network.
- Communicating regularly with the Superior of the Loyola University Jesuit community.
- Modeling, articulating, communicating, implementing, and advancing the philosophy and mission of Loyola Blakefield within the school community and throughout Catholic/Jesuit networks.

School Leadership and Management

- Advancing all school programs in fidelity to the pedagogical and curricular vision and strategy.
- Leading, collaborating with, and coaching a senior leadership team to ensure clear, consistent, and coordinated management of the school.
- Driving the successful implementation of Loyola Blakefield's Strategic Plan.
- Establishing and managing a performance-driven culture in which the President holds all constituents accountable for executing tasks.
- Creating and fostering a stimulating and professional environment in which faculty, staff, and administration grow in their work and work interdependently to discuss and resolve academic and related operational issues for the greater good of the school.
- Understanding and overseeing the financial management and oversight of the school including budgeting, financial forecasting, financial reporting, analysis, and policy related to financial and human resources.

Advancement and Advocacy

- Providing strategic leadership and direction to enrollment management of the school, ensuring alignment with the vision, strategy, and financial needs of the institution.
- Overseeing and leading a strategically aligned advancement program that achieves the institution's goals and objectives, including needed travel in support of the development program and in representing the school at professional and mission-based programs and conferences.
- Serving as the school's voice, advocate, and communicator with all school constituencies.
- In partnership with the Principals, sustain and foster the academic reputation of the school and strengthen ongoing relationships within the community, city of Baltimore, Baltimore County, and the surrounding communities.

Critical Success Markers

- Admission of strong students and year-over-year retention of those enrolled
- Achievement of Strategic Plan objectives
- Alignment with Jesuit Sponsorship Review
- Successful AIMS accreditation
- Faculty, Staff, and Administration Satisfaction Survey
- Financial performance and health
- Fundraising/endowment growth

Competencies, and Qualifications

Key Experiences and Requirements

- Passion for Faith-based Education, in general, and Jesuit Education, in particular
- Advanced degree in education or a related field
- Understanding of boys' education
- Independent school and educational administrator experience
- Fundraising experience and success
- Experience serving students from a wide variety of backgrounds

Traits and Competencies

- Effective Communicator who drives vision and purpose
- Strategic thinker, problem solver, and tactical implementor who drives results
- Ability to balance the needs of all school constituencies, with student needs at the top of the list
- Approachable and accessible
- Ability to build effective teams and strong networks beyond the school
- Ability to make difficult decisions and engage in conflict resolution
- High level of energy and enthusiasm
- Self-aware and selfless
- Financial acumen

Anticipated Search Calendar and Requirements

Mr. John Stewart'60, a long-serving leader within the school community has been appointed Interim President for the 2023-2024 school year. The school seeks to have a new President in place by July 1, 2024, while remaining open to an earlier appointment and overlap with Mr. Stewart.

Application Deadline: May 31

Starting Date: On or before July 1, 2024

Candidates should upload their application materials, including a resumé, cover letter, statement of educational philosophy and its connection to Loyola Blakefield's Jesuit identity, and five references, as soon as possible, to the Loyola Blakefield listing on the .
References will not be contacted until the finalist stage of the search.

DRG Talent Advisory Group is conducting this search on behalf of Loyola Blakefield. To discuss this opportunity in more detail, contact our consultants:

Andrew Watson
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We believe in the power and necessity of diversity to achieve a greater richness of ideas and to prepare our students to be leaders in an increasingly global community. Our students enjoy a campus that draws from the entire metropolitan region, bringing young men who possess a variety of talents and perspectives. This same commitment extends to our faculty & staff so that we may build a community where all can achieve a firm sense of belonging – one where our students can see themselves in the adults who guide them.

This position description is based upon material provided by Loyola Blakefield, an equal-opportunity employer.

To apply to this position, please click [HERE](#).