



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Director of the Design Center

LOCATION

Aliso Viejo, CA

REMOTE SEMIFINAL ROUND

Week of April 15

START DATE WINDOW

July 1, 2024
(or later by mutual agreement)

POST DATE

February 28, 2024

ON-SITE FINAL ROUND

Week of April 22

SALARY RANGE

\$135,000 to \$150,000

PRIORITY DEADLINE

March 29, 2024

DECISION ANNOUNCED

April 30, 2024

REPORTS TO

Director of Technology
and Innovation



**ST. MARY'S
SCHOOL**
World-sized hearts. World-class minds.



Ed Tech
RECRUITING



Summary

St. Mary's School is an independent day school that serves over 700 students, Pre-K through Grade 8, in Aliso Viejo, CA. As the only independent school in Orange County that offers the international baccalaureate (IB) program from primary school through middle school, St. Mary's is committed to a globally-minded and innovative curriculum that, in many ways, stands alone within the educational landscape in Orange County. St. Mary's students are prepared not only for the next steps in their educational journey, but also to become courageous, caring, global citizens and enlightened leaders of tomorrow.

This summer, construction will begin on a 28,000 square foot facility which will include a design center comprising five specialty labs and a gallery space. The director of the design center will lead the transition into this new space, oversee the design center and its resources, and collaborate with faculty and academic leadership to fully integrate the design thinking with St. Mary's outstanding IB and design-centered curriculum. The director of the design center will report to the director of technology and innovation, and will bring an expertise in design thinking and a relational approach to leadership to the role. St. Mary's looks forward to welcoming the director of the design center to start July 1, 2024, or later by mutual agreement.

OUR TIME TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE WORLD IS...RIGHT NOW.

I CAN

At St. Mary's School, we teach students to ask "what" and "why" not only because they're intellectually curious and caring, but also so that they can understand that they're an essential piece of the answer to "how."

I AM

The whole world is at our fingertips. that makes influencing what the wide world will become both our pleasure and our responsibility. It's up to us.

I WILL

At St. Mary's School, we look deeply and decide for ourselves. we devote our world-sized hearts and world-class minds to create something new — something unique and better — for ourselves, our community and the planet. we're doing it right now. Won't you?



Mission, Vision, & Values



OUR MISSION

Our mission at St. Mary's is simple:

“World-Sized Hearts.
World-Class Minds.”

By equally engaging the heart and the mind, we inspire and empower our students to change the world with purpose and understanding. Our students are inquirers. By asking “what” and “why,” they begin to understand their role in the “how.”

Our world-class faculty and staff are dedicated to their students and our mission. They create an engaging, meaningful learning environment daily. St. Mary's parents are supportive and believe in our purpose. They wholeheartedly engage with our school community and partner with us throughout their child's journey at St. Mary's.

OUR VISION

Preparing and inspiring children of today to become courageous, caring, global citizens and enlightened leaders of tomorrow.

OUR VALUES

- wonder, inquiry, and discovery
- diverse ways of thinking and understanding
- compassionate actions
- responsibility for one's self and others
- sharing our gifts with the world



History

Our story begins in 1994, in Aliso Viejo, California, when Father Ernest D. Sillers founded St. Mary's with a humble set of four classrooms.

He belovedly referred to St. Mary's, his fourth school, as the "jewel in the crown" because we were his first non-church affiliated school. Father Sillers wanted a school that was inclusive of all faiths and offers a trinity of values: integrity, academics and spirituality.

Father Sillers founded St. Mary's to prepare our students for the inevitability of a more globally connected world... one that is intellectually diverse, interconnected by technology and perennially in flux. His dream was to transform students into global citizens who, when tested, would find strength from their St. Mary's foundation.

Father's vision has strongly resonated with families throughout St. Mary's 30-year rich history. St. Mary's is a diverse community speaking many languages, believing in varied religions and ascribing to different cultural beliefs. Because of our foundation, vision and values, in 2007, St. Mary's became an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School Organization. Today, we are the only independent school in Orange County to incorporate the IB curriculum from preschool through Middle School.

The palpable pride within the St. Mary's community stems directly from this clarity of purpose: academic excellence, with compassion... for a better world.

TIMELINE



1994

Father Sillers opens his fourth school, which he refers to as the Jewel in the Crown. St. Mary's starts the school year with a set of four classroom trailers.

1995-1997

St. Mary's graduates its first class of 16 students.

St. Mary's has 200 students enrolled; campus expands to include a dozen classrooms, playground, library and administrative offices.

First permanent building for Lower School opens.



2002

The International Baccalaureate (IB) MYP and PYP are adopted by St. Mary's. New building opens (gym, library and media resource center, Middle School labs, classrooms and art studio).

2007

St. Mary's becomes an authorized IB World School (PS - Grade 8) and receives reaccreditation with WASC and NAEYC, and accreditation with CAIS.

2009

Early Preschool two-year-old program begins at St. Mary's.

2010

St. Mary's is officially named St. Mary's School; a new monument sign is installed.

2015

Library is renovated and the IB HUB officially opens in spring 2016.

2017

Launch of the Imagine More campaign to reimagine the school campus. EEP playground reimaged.

2018

First phase of Imagine More completed and includes Bhathal Merage Academic Center and Green Family Commons.

2019

St. Mary's introduces new mission; World-sized hearts. World-class minds.

2022

First Scholar student graduates. St. Mary's Fund raises over \$1M. St. Mary's launches first fall/winter magazine and hosts first Winter Market.

2023

St. Mary's celebrates 30th anniversary. Hosts first Design Fair and MS Fest.



Key Stats

6.25

acre campus

715

students enrolled

145

talented faculty and staff

Acceptance rate: **51%**

Yield: **71%**

Attrition: **9.4%**

Our students come from Australia, Japan, China, England, California, New York, just to name a few.

20+

dozens of languages spoken in our community

10+

religions represented



2,000

graduates

St. Mary's School is the only independent IB School in Orange County, CA with Primary and Middle Years Programmes

ST. MARY'S CLASS OF '23 STATS

WHERE ARE THEY ATTENDING?

Private high schools: **83%**

Public high schools: **17%**

TOP PRIVATE SCHOOLS ATTENDING

JSerra Catholic High School: **35.5%**

Other schools: **30.5%**

Santa Margarita: **21%**

Sage Hill: **8%**

Mater Dei: **5%**

PARTNERS

International Baccalaureate

NAEYC - National Association for the Education of Young Children

NAIS - National Association of Independent Schools

ACCREDITATION

Western Association of Schools and Colleges

CAIS - California Association of Independent Schools

www.smaa.org



Enhancing Learning Through Diversity



ST. MARY'S SCHOLAR PROGRAM

We are committed to cultivating world-sized hearts and world-class minds through the St. Mary's Scholar Program. Our mission for this program is to provide access to our unique learning environment for students who may not otherwise be able to attend our school. We believe that a major tenet of a St. Mary's education is our community. We value and encourage inclusiveness and we believe that a diverse community equals a stronger one.

The St. Mary's Scholar Program offers full-tuition scholarships to qualified students for the entire three years of Middle School and supports their engagement in student life. Launched in 2019 by a generous St. Mary's family, this program seeks to provide access to our unique learning environment for students who would not otherwise be able to attend the school.

The goal of the St. Mary's Scholar Program is to further develop a learning environment that prepares students |to thrive within a diverse, interconnected world. By providing scholarships for six outstanding Middle School students, two in each grade, the program aims to attract students from diverse economic and cultural backgrounds to St. Mary's.

The St. Mary's Scholar Program is comprehensive, accounting for all of the extra costs beyond tuition, such as transportation costs, books and course materials, athletics, uniforms, and one International Field Study. This ensures that our scholar students have access to the full educational experience at St. Mary's.





Strategic Plan

This plan will ensure our priorities, energy and resources are consistently focused on improving and enhancing the St. Mary's experience. We will measure goals and assess outcomes against the priorities and steps outlined in our plan. The following plan aligns with our mission, vision and values and is framed around our Pillars of Excellence.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 1

A Transformative Learning Experience For Our Students.

- Create cross-curricular learning experiences and foster design thinking as a through line in EEP-Grade 8.
- Create opportunities for students and teachers to cultivate their passions outside of the curriculum.
- Ensure our school experience incorporates technology and innovation to prepare students for the 21st century workforce.
- Expand educational partnerships with the outside community to take learning beyond the campus, allowing for real world application.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 2

An Innovative 21st Century Campus That Is Flexible And Environmentally Responsible.

- Successfully complete a comprehensive three-year campaign that will enable the development of St. Mary's physical spaces.
- Complete the campus spaces Master Plan.
- Ensure all new physical spaces adhere to environmentally responsible guidelines.
- Enhance and develop outdoor learning spaces and curriculum.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 3

A Broad Educational Program That Develops The Whole Child.

- Ensure St Mary's provides a comprehensive social-emotional learning curriculum for all students.
- Expand service-learning opportunities with 100% of students participating in meaningful service projects by 2024.



STRATEGIC PILLAR 4A Premier International
Baccalaureate (IB)
Programme.

- Foster a deeper understanding within the school community of International Baccalaureate pedagogy and philosophy.
- Ensure all aspects of the school experience are inspiring students to embody the St. Mary's Portrait of a Graduate.
- Ensure an inclusive school experience for our English language learners and their families.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 5Exceptional Professional
Development For Our
Faculty And Staff.

- Invest in the recruitment, retention and development of outstanding educators, both faculty and staff, who embrace St. Mary's Mission, Vision and Values.
- As the workplace evolves, support faculty's well-being, professional development and collaboration.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 6A Continued Sense Of
Community Among
Students, Families,
Faculty, Staff & Beyond.

- Develop a plan and vision, anchored in belonging and inclusivity, to foster a culture where all students feel fully seen, heard and celebrated.
- Develop a Community Relations Program that:
 - Increases student engagement and involvement through real-world application.
 - Increases visibility of St. Mary's within the community.
 - Enhances the student experience through a deeper connection to his/her community.





Academics



Academics at St. Mary's are intellectually and creatively rigorous. Our curriculum is intentionally designed to provide students the learning opportunities through which they can acquire the knowledge, skills and habits that are essential to preparation for further education, personal fulfillment and active global citizenship.



As students move through our Early Kindergarten - Grade 8 program, they are given more choice, independence, and freedom to discover their unique voice.

We recognize and appreciate the daunting task of being a young person, and seek to provide the support and guidance they need intellectually, socially and emotionally. We have high expectations of our students and know the community and partnerships we create between faculty, staff and parents will ensure continued success.

Through our programs, informed by educational research, we teach our students that learning is engaging, exciting, fun and at times, messy, challenging and nonlinear. In the learning process, we encourage our students to understand the value of questions, mistakes, risk-taking, perseverance, and reflection.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a global leader in education — empowering students to take ownership of their learning and make sense of the complexities of the rapidly changing world. IB programmes develop future-ready, resilient, self-motivated young people who have the knowledge, skills, and sense of purpose they need to thrive throughout their lives and contribute to making the world a better place.

An IB education teaches students to value learning as an integral part of their everyday lives. All IB programmes share a powerful vision and commitment to the following:

STUDENT-CENTERED

Students' own curiosity provides the most effective provocation for learning that is engaging, relevant, challenging and significant. The process of inquiry gives students voice, choice and ownership, affording them agency in their own process of learning.

LIVING & LEARNING GLOBALLY

International-mindedness is a key part of the mission of an IB Education. IB programmes increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues. The IB invites students to engage with diverse beliefs, values and experiences within and across cultures.



BEYOND THE DISCIPLINES

IB programmes offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected. For students to continue to develop as lifelong learners and better understand the world around them, they need to make meaningful connections between academic disciplines. In the IB, learning experiences are broad and balanced which allows students to access conceptual, factual and procedural knowledge within and across subject areas. By engaging in authentic opportunities, students are able to integrate learning and add coherence to the curriculum content.

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

All IB programmes develop the approaches to learning (ATL) skill categories of communication, social, self-management, research and thinking to promote learning as an active and dynamic process. These interrelated skills seek to empower students of all ages to become self-regulated learners who can ask relevant questions, set meaningful goals and put effective strategies to use in order to achieve their goals.

WHAT MAKES IB DIFFERENT?

The IB aims to do more than other curricula. It is unique because of its academic and personal rigor, challenging students to excel in their studies and individual growth.

The IB aims to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy. The IB aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students, who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

THE IB GIVES STUDENTS...

distinct advantages by building their critical and creative thinking skills, nurturing curiosity and the ability to solve complex problems.

WE OFFER TWO IB PROGRAMMES

In the **Primary Years Programme (PYP)**, the IB's youngest students learn about and use knowledge, concepts and skills from a variety of subjects to explore units of inquiry within six transdisciplinary themes.

The **Middle Years Programme (MYP)** is a challenging framework that encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world and culminates in the community project. MYP students are well-prepared to undertake the rigors of high school, including the IB Diploma Programme if desired.

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

The Technology and Innovation program at St. Mary's School is designed to support and engage student learning. St. Mary's students experience coursework in design, programming, engineering, robotics, media, design thinking and digital fabrication from Early Kindergarten through Eighth grade.

Technology is woven throughout the curriculum to ensure a deeper connection to the content as well as create opportunities to demonstrate creativity, design thinking and problem solving skills.

The use of innovative technologies is essential in our quest to educate students into global citizens. At St. Mary's School, we strive to expose our students to a diverse range of operating systems, hardware and software, while emphasizing the importance of being responsible digital learners. We also encourage our students to seek innovative resources that expand their minds and bridge the gap between distances. Our balanced approach of teaching concrete skills and providing opportunities for our students to explore creates an authentic learning environment.



St. Marys' students begin their journey with digital literacy in Grade 1 where they are introduced to plagiarism and academic integrity by the Librarian and Director of Information Services. Students in grades 5-8 participate in an annual Information literacy bootcamp that reinforces the IB ATL skills (research, social skills, communication and self- management) as well as the MLA conventions. These skills are further supported by all grade level and subject teachers.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Early Education Program (EEP) adds developmentally appropriate technology and innovation to enhance student learning experiences and provide the building blocks for fundamental technology literacy. Students are given opportunities to engineer, build and tinker. They are encouraged to use technology to think critically about their surroundings and the world they live in. Classrooms are equipped with digital learning tools including interactive displays and classroom iPads. Additional resources include robotics, LEGO engineering and other tools that provide opportunities for interactive center-based learning and screenless coding.

LOWER SCHOOL

Technology in Lower School is designed to enhance and support the academic program through a variety of tools and resources. Students in grades K-2 utilize iPads as part of their learning experience. Grades 3 through 5 participate in a one-to-one Chromebook program. Students receive a dedicated chromebook in Grade 3 and carry it with them through Grade 5. Each year students in Grade 3 participate in ChromeCamp (a Chromebook orientation to help prepare them for the device program). Lower School classrooms are also equipped with interactive whiteboards and other innovative tools.

The Lower School Technology Specialist works with students and teachers in exploring safe and responsible uses of technology. As the students gain experience, they are given more independence to explore answers to their questions and display their understanding in multiple modes through animations, programming, video creation and digital presentations and much more.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

As students transition into the Middle School, their use of technology becomes an integral part of their learning with a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Students experience a hybrid-learning environment at St. Mary's that extends learning beyond the school walls using digital resources and innovation. The technology program is designed to support collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving skills in a safe and structured environment.

St. Mary's Middle School is equipped with two specialized Design Spaces that contain the latest technology and innovation tools to support teaching and learning.

The unique spaces have digital fabrication tools including 3D printers, laser cutter, sewing machines, vinyl cutter, robotics as well as crafting and everyday materials. These Spaces provide a unique environment for creativity, innovation and design thinking. Students thrive in these environments as they tinker, build, discover and invent.





Design the Future





Design the Future

The Design The Future Campaign combines our vision for an outstanding facility with our mission to develop world-sized hearts and world-class minds. It fully embodies our beliefs and values and completes the Master Plan.

Design The Future will create a space where our school family can connect and thrive. This campaign is not about bricks and mortar. It's about crafting a dynamic and comfortable environment that stimulates creativity and celebrates achievement. It's about creating a campus commensurate with our students' ambitions.

DESIGN CENTER

The Design Center will be located on the second floor of our new two-story 28,000 square foot facility. It will house innovative science, technology and fine arts labs for every St. Mary's student. Specialized flex labs, such as a workshop, tool shed, and studio, will facilitate research, collaboration, and prototyping. Additionally, a gallery space will be available for students to showcase their work and inspire others.

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

A new learning space on the first floor will nurture creativity and intellectual growth for our youngest Falcons. Area will feature flexible classrooms and a Learning Hub for gathering and eating. The rooms will be configured to allow teachers to meet the various needs of each student while maximizing imagination, play, wonder and reflection.

OUTDOOR AND COMMUNITY SPACES

The addition of new outdoor spaces creates lush, park-like areas for gathering, learning and serene reflection. This includes the establishment of a Community Hub featuring a coffee cafe, student store and lobby entrance. At St. Mary's, community is paramount and these spaces offer opportunities for families to connect during those seemingly simple moments when we come together.





DESIGN THINKING FOCUSED

In design thinking, we begin with empathy. Teachers understand students' needs. Students understand the world's needs. We work together and learn from each other. In our new facility, we'll believe that we can solve any problem, and we'll know that we are free to fail.

IB FOCUSED

Integrated. Multidisciplinary. Self-directed. Inquiry-based. Just as there are no walls between subjects in our minds or in our work, we take an integrated and multi-disciplinary approach to solving problems. Our facility will embody IB qualities, nurturing self-directed critical thinkers who respect each other and value the planet.

TECH FOCUSED

The facility will be highly tech-enabled. It will be purpose-built for change. It will be designed and outfitted with future change in mind. It will ensure that—right now—our children at all grade levels will be working at the leading edge of technology and developing skills that will be increasingly needed in the future.



COMMUNITY FOCUSED

To be true to our mission of World-Sized Hearts, we want to ensure this facility is available after hours to the greater community of Orange County students, especially underserved communities. It is our goal to partner with community organizations to provide access to the new facility and the design thinking mindset in afterschool, summer, and weekend programming.



Design the Future Campaign Timeline

2019

FOCUS GROUPS

Teachers interviewed students, and focus groups were conducted with K-2 parents, 3-5 parents, and MS parents.

2021

CAMPUS VISITS AND PD

St. Mary's team visited schools in the Bay Area for inspiration including: The Nueva School, Campbell School of Innovation, Stanford, and the Google campus.

2022 - 2023

QUIET PHASE

Donor cultivation began and lead donors secured. Architectural plans and renderings develop.

JUNE 2024

BREAK GROUND

Site work begins as EEP classroom modulars moved into temporary village and remaining two modulars are demolished.

MARCH 15, 2024

PUBLIC LAUNCH

Campaign rehearsal in detail to greater community.

JANUARY 16, 2024

BOARD APPROVAL OF PUBLIC LAUNCH

Over 50% of funds raised, Board approved public launch of campaign and break.

SUMMER 2024

EEP VILLAGE

Once occupation permits are received, EEP/Business/HR/ Admissions moves into Village and will remain until building is complete.

2024

SY-CONSTRUCTION

K-8 classes remain the same. LS Science moved into field-level portable, and LS tech is on a cart. Parking will be in Coast Hills.

2025

FALL GRAND-OPENING

Kindergarten will move into the new building. Grade 5 will move back into the Academic Building. Academic team will move into the LS Art room. Admin space in the new building is TBA.





About The Role



Background & Opportunities

St. Mary's School is an independent day school that serves over 700 students, Pre-K through Grade 8, in Aliso Viejo, CA. As the only independent school in Orange County that offers the international baccalaureate (IB) program from primary school through middle school, St. Mary's is committed to a globally-minded and innovative curriculum that, in many ways, stands alone within the educational landscape in Orange County. St. Mary's students are prepared not only for the next steps in their educational journey, but also to become courageous, caring, global citizens and enlightened leaders of tomorrow.



St. Mary's weaves the principles of design thinking into its academic program for students at all grade levels. Learners as young as two are taught the building blocks of digital literacy, and are introduced to digital technologies that encourage them to explore and create. Lower school technology specialists introduce the principles of digital literacy and citizenship, and middle school students fully integrate innovative technologies into their learning — from 3D printing to robotics and animation.

Given the robust opportunities students are offered to explore these innovative technologies, St. Mary's recognizes the need for a space that will allow students to fully explore and create in ways that are limited by current space and equipment. As part of the strategic plan, the head of school, now in his second year as head and 15th year at St. Mary's, is leading the vision for St. Mary's to continue being not only a premiere IB program, but also a leader in innovative technologies and design in the region.



Groundbreaking will begin this summer for the construction of a new 28,000 square foot facility that will reshape the St. Mary's campus. The ground floor of the building will be the new home for the Early Years Program, and intentionally-designed outdoor community spaces will become the heart of campus. The top floor of the new building will house the Design Center, which will include five specialty spaces, as well as a gallery space for students to display their creations. The director of the design center will be instrumental in ensuring that this space is utilized to its full potential and incorporated into each student's learning experience.

During the 2024-2025 school year, while construction is still underway, the director will spend that first year on staff building relationships with the St. Mary's community and developing a deep understanding of the school's innovative curriculum and design needs. This foundational year will also require that the director build partnerships within the parent and local community while promoting the exciting potential of the new design center. In partnership with faculty, staff, and leadership, the director will then begin to assemble a roadmap of how the new design center can best support the needs of the community and the IB curriculum, and communicate this exciting vision. The director will also need to address logistical considerations such as how each division can use the

space equitably and robustly, which may include re-envisioning and iterating on existing academic schedules.

Once the new building opens to students in Fall of 2025, the director will lead the transition of design-centered programming into the new building, and provide ongoing training and support to faculty and students as they utilize the space. The director will coach students and faculty in the many innovative ways to utilize the space and equipment, while ensuring that the IB curriculum remains at the center of all curriculum. Ensuring that faculty and staff are supported in the hands-on use of the space will require the director to eventually hire a technician. However, the ideal candidate for St. Mary's would have a reasonable amount of fluency with traditional maker space and fabrication equipment, without having to rely entirely on others for maintenance and support.

The director of the design center will report to the director of technology and innovation, and work collaboratively with the dean of academics, IB coordinators, and academic school administrators to fully integrate the design center's resources with St. Mary's outstanding IB and design-centered curriculum. St. Mary's looks forward to welcoming the director of the design center to start July 1, 2024, or later by mutual agreement.



**DOUG
PATTERSON**
HEAD OF SCHOOL

Doug Patterson is the Head of School and has been an important part of the St. Mary's community for 20 years. He has worn many hats including: Assistant Head of School for Educational Innovation, Head of Lower School, Grade 8 Individuals and Societies teacher, and coach. Doug is proud of the talented faculty and staff at St. Mary's who effectively capture our Falcons' hearts and minds to effectively deliver an outstanding IB program. His dream for St. Mary's is for it to continue to thrive as a school where all students feel seen, heard and cared for, and that every one of our students becomes the scholar described in the Portrait of a Graduate. He is whole-heartedly committed to the Design The Future campaign and is relentless in his passion for successfully completing the buildings and fully bringing design thinking at every level to St. Mary's. Doug is looking forward to partnering with the director to achieve this dream.

We invite you to [watch our interview](#) with Doug, who talks about the school's outstanding community and culture, the vision for the next chapter of the school, and how the director of the design center will enter a community that is excited to take design education to the next level.



Community Profiles



ADRIENNE BONONI
**DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY
 & INNOVATION**

Adrienne has served as the Director of Technology and Innovation at St. Mary's School for the past three years. Her career in education started in the classroom, where she spent several years in various teaching roles: elementary teacher, middle school technology, and even transitional kindergarten. While Adrienne's heart remains rooted in the classroom, she is passionate about leveraging technology to revolutionize the educational experience. As the director of technology and innovation, Adrienne merges her dedication to teaching with the opportunity to pioneer transformative initiatives, shaping the future trajectory of the school. What resonates with Adrienne about St. Mary's is that it transcends the notion of merely being a school or workplace; it embodies a sense of family and community. While many schools may claim to prioritize community, at St. Mary's School, this sentiment is palpable, tangible and woven into the very fabric of the culture. Adrienne is excited to welcome the director of the design center to St. Mary's School. This position holds the key to sculpting the evolution of the school's academic program. With an expertise in design thinking and innovation, the individual stepping into this role will have a significant and transformative impact on the school.



LAUREN STERNER
DEAN OF ACADEMICS

Lauren has worked at St. Mary's for 21 years. Now in her first year as the dean of academics, she began as a 4th grade teacher and served as the PYP coordinator for 16 years. As a St. Mary's parent herself, Lauren describes the school as a "second home" and an exceptional place for both students and educators. Parents are connected and involved, and teachers are not just instructors but mentors, deeply invested in the well-being and development of each student. Lauren is excited that the design center will grow the school's program into what many have always imagined it could be — it will continue to prepare students not only academically, but also for the challenges they will face in the future. Lauren looks forward to working with the incoming director, and hopes they will bring not only a deep knowledge of design thinking, but also a warm and relational approach to get teachers excited about the many ways to utilize design center space.





KARI GREENFIELD
MYP DESIGN TEACHER

Kari is currently a 7th grade lead teacher at St. Mary's, and is also the design teacher for the middle years program and school-wide schedule coordinator. In reflecting on what she loves most about St. Mary's, Kari describes the way that the school encourages students to explore their passions and supports them in becoming creative and critical thinkers. She looks forward to the new design building opening because it will provide students a space to further their creativity and allow them to design for the future. Kari looks forward to working closely as a thought partner with the incoming director of the design center to collaborate and find innovative ways to teach students how to create for the future.



KIM DZWONKOWSKI
EARLY KINDERGARTEN
TEACHER

Kim started her journey at St. Mary's in one of the biggest design spaces of any school — the playground. As the EEP's outdoor classroom teacher, Kim combined sports and sensory options alongside music and art into IB units and cultural celebrations of the community, turning the playground into a classroom. Now an Early Kindergarten teacher, Kim is grateful to be more involved in the IB curriculum and especially enjoys the connections between IB and design thinking which help curious students investigate a myriad of 'Whys?' each day. Kim loves that St. Mary's community never settles in its description of self, but rather, evolves with changing times, pedagogy, and needs of its students to be a learning space that encourages all students, faculty, and families to continue learning. She looks forward to the design center becoming a space where deep, hands-on connections are made and show students through creation that world-sized hearts and world-class minds fuel each other with no end.



Duties

MANAGEMENT OF A NEW DESIGN CENTER

- Maintain ultimate responsibility for all operations of the design center, including equipment maintenance, supply ordering, budgets, capital purchases, and safety procedures.
- Develop partnerships with external organizations to both support the mission of the design center and provide additional learning opportunities for students and faculty.
- Coordinate with division leadership and faculty to ensure equitable and robust use of the design center.
- Research, recommend, manage and implement the necessary equipment, furnishings and software as related to the design center.
- Develop policies and procedures for safe use of tools and materials in the design center.
- In partnership with the school schedule coordinator, develop a daily academic schedule that ensures students at all grade levels are consistently able to utilize the design center.

INTEGRATION OF DESIGN THINKING

- Partner with academic administrators and IB coordinators to design and implement a curriculum that fully integrates design thinking with existing IB units to enhance the learning experience of students at every grade level (Preschool-8).
- Develop and deliver learning opportunities that invite traditional classes to the design center to utilize design thinking principles in support of the school's robust IB curriculum.
- Partner with teachers to establish sequential goals and objectives for the integration of technological skills and standards in grades preschool through 8.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FACULTY

- Design and delivery faculty training sessions and workshops to identify opportunities for design and innovation concepts to be integrated into existing and new curricula.
- During the 2024-2025 year, while the new design center is still being built, create and lead individual, cohort, and departmental learning opportunities in design thinking, and fabrication that are hands-on, inspiring, and differentiated.
- Engage in continuous professional development to deepen content knowledge and skills in the areas of innovation, design and technology integration.

GENERAL LEADERSHIP & PARTNERSHIP

- Be a highly visible and active presence in the design center, serve as the internal and external face of the space, and supervise any and all staff.
- Build and maintain relationships among design and innovation leaders in independent schools and community partners in STEAM industries, innovation, and entrepreneurship both locally and nationally.
- Report to the director of technology and innovation, and perform other duties as assigned.



Qualifications & Qualities

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- A bachelor's degree, and multiple years of experience teaching or working in one or more of the areas: design, design thinking, engineering, fabrication, applied science, shop, or a related field
- Experience designing and implementing project-based or experiential learning
- Experience teaching in, partnering with, or coordinating the operations of, an innovation studio, shop environment, fabrication lab, robotics team, or design space
- Experience leading workshops, trainings, and projects, preferably to teachers
- Familiarity with, or a willingness to learn, the principles of an International Baccalaureate curriculum
- A track record of establishing successful partnerships with faculty and other stakeholder groups

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL QUALITIES

- An entrepreneurial mindset, and a genuine excitement for augmenting and developing student skills in design, design thinking, and other STEAM-related disciplines
- A willingness to help others catalyze new ideas and bring them to fruition
- Relational, inspirational, pragmatic, and patient leadership
- Authentic empathy, warmth, and collegiality
- Confidence and humility, together with a sense of humor and warm personality
- Savvy communication skills and a proclivity for developing new partnerships
- A collaborative, cooperative, and growth-oriented mindset
- Enthusiasm for students to pursue their passions, talents, and interests, both in and out of the traditional classroom
- A passion for building community and facilitating adult learning



How to Apply

Ed Tech Recruiting is acting on behalf of St. Mary's School to identify exceptional leaders in technology.

Direct inquiries to:

jobs@EdTechRecruiting.com



APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY **MARCH 29, 2024** WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY REVIEW.

All applications must be submitted online:

www.EdTechRecruiting.com/jobs/SMAA/design

An application requires submitting four PDFs:

1. Cover letter introducing yourself to St. Mary's School search committee
2. CV or resume
3. A list of four references (include each person's name, current organization, title, phone number, email, and past connection to you — though we will not contact any references without obtaining your permission first)
4. A response to the following prompt:

Please provide a short list (no more than five) of the most successful maker/design classes that you taught, or integration projects that you developed for yourself or other teachers. For each entry, include the age ranges of the students, along with one or two sentences describing the goals for that particular class or project.

St. Mary's School is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for applicants and employees and makes its hiring and employment decisions without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, genetic characteristics, or medical condition as defined under applicable laws. Employee decisions shall comply with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination in employment.

