



# ST. URSULA ACADEMY

CATHOLIC • ALL GIRLS • COLLEGE PREP • GRADES 6-12

## Principal Search February 2024

### Overview:

St. Ursula Academy (SUA), a Catholic, independent, all girls, college preparatory school serving grades 6-12, has opened a search for its next Principal, who will assume leadership in July 2024. The school seeks a dynamic, collaborative Catholic educator whose leadership will ensure the continuation of an outstanding academic program and who will continue to promote the mission, vision, and core values of the school. This leadership transition occurs at a favorable time for the SUA community, with increasing enrollment and an exceptional faculty and staff already in place.

SUA is in suburban Toledo, Ohio, surrounded by the Village of Ottawa Hills. Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is 642 students, including 482 in grades 9-12. The Junior Academy, grades 6-8, serves 160 students. The student-teacher ratio is 12:1. SUA draws students from throughout northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, and, while the majority of students are Catholic, the school welcomes students of all faiths. Tuition and fees for the 2023-2024 school year are \$14,000 for High School and \$10,000 for the Junior Academy. Refer to SUA's website, [www.toledosua.org](http://www.toledosua.org) to learn more. SUA's School Profile can be found here: [School Profile](#).

SUA follows a President-Principal Administrative Model, with the Principal reporting to the President. SUA currently employs approximately 90 employees, including 50 full-time and 14 part-time faculty. More than 50 percent of the full-time faculty hold advanced degrees. The Leadership Team at the school consists of the following positions:

*Reporting to the President:* Principal; Director of Advancement; Director of Finance; Director of Marketing and Admissions

*Reporting to the Principal:* Assistant Principal; Director of Academics; Director of the Junior Academy; Director of Curriculum and Professional Development; Campus Minister of Faith Formation; Director of Technology; and Director of Athletics

St. Ursula Academy is sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters of Toledo, Ohio, and is accredited by the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA). SUA is a member of the International Coalition of Girls' Schools (ICGS) and the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA).

### Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Strategic Plan:

*Mission Statement: Founded in the Ursuline tradition and rooted in the Catholic faith, St. Ursula Academy educates each young woman, transforming her through intellectual inquiry, personal growth, spiritual formation, and compassionate service, empowering her to lead confidently in a global society.*

*Vision Statement: St. Ursula Academy and Junior Academy are the premier educational choices for young women and their parents, fostering a learning environment that develops young women of wisdom, service, and faith so that each is empowered to embrace the challenges of the world with leadership, courage, and compassion.*



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At St. Ursula Academy, the following core values inspire the school community to live in the spirit of the foundress of the Ursuline Sisters, St. Angela Merici, and of Jesus, as found in the Gospels. SUA's Core Values are as follows:

- Ursuline Spirituality
- Academic Excellence
- Service
- Leadership
- Community
- Development of the Whole Person
- Care of the Individual
- Openness to Change

SUA's mission and core values come alive in its rigorous academic programs, spiritual formation opportunities, and robust co-curricular and extra-curricular programs. SUA's Mission Statement articulates its purpose: to make a difference in the world by preparing each young woman for college and for a life of meaning. St. Ursula Academy's 2020 Strategic Plan: *Making a Difference* can be found at this link on SUA's website: [2020 Strategic Plan: Making a Difference](#)

### **St. Ursula Academy Highlights**

The mission of St. Ursula Academy and the charism of the Ursuline Sisters are reflected in the challenging college preparatory curriculum and overall educational experience that is provided to students in grades six through twelve. SUA's theme — "You choose the path, we light the way"—clearly focuses on illuminating the path for each student, allowing each girl to discover her unique educational journey. No two girls are the same, so no two girls should follow the same path. Below are just a few of the many elements that set SUA apart and makes the school *Undeniably Ursula*.

#### ***Academic Excellence***

SUA's choice to offer the most internationally accepted and acclaimed method of advanced instruction provides students with challenging courses and a means to earn college credit while in high school. SUA offers 18 AP courses and is proud of its 79 percent pass rate that far exceeds the state and national averages of 60 and 61.3 percent, respectively. In addition, SUA offers 17 Honors courses, as well as a wide variety of electives and enrichment courses. The average ACT score for the Class of 2023 was 23.

The Junior Academy core curriculum includes math, science, social studies, English and language arts, and theology. A full slate of electives allows students to explore their interests. Electives include world languages, music performance courses, art, STEM, and technology classes. Junior Academy students in eighth grade can enroll in high school classes based on ability and educational background. Theology classes are required for all grade levels.



### ***SUA Leadership Program***

To further fulfill its mission, in 2021, St. Ursula Academy earned the distinction of becoming the first school in the nation to offer *The Leadership Program* in its curriculum as a required course for every student, beginning with the Class of 2025. *The Leadership Program* is a four-year, applied neuroscience and evidence-based leadership curriculum for high school girls taught during the academic school day. Advised by some of the world’s top thought leaders in coaching and leader development, *The Leadership Program* has received international recognition as a “leadership and management idea with the potential to change the world.” (Thinkers50 Radar List 2021).

The curriculum is delivered within a best-practice leadership development framework that innovatively engages both **faculty**, as certified in-school Leadership Coaches, and **students**, as learners and peer leaders. Now in its third year, *The Leadership Program* is impacting students and faculty alike as leadership development is an integral part of learning and leading at SUA.

In addition to SUA’s wide variety of AP and Honors courses and globally recognized leadership development curriculum, SUA’s outstanding educational experience also includes the following:

### ***Spirit of St. Angela Merici and Catholic Identity***

Founded in the Ursuline tradition and rooted in the Catholic faith, SUA’s motto, “For the Glory of God Alone,” is foundational to our mission. Through theology classes, thousands of service hours, Catholic sacraments, and retreats, SUA students learn and embrace the teachings of the Gospels and the Ursuline Order’s foundress, St. Angela Merici. St. Angela Merici loved God above all and advocated for the education of women and love for community. St. Angela’s legacy is part of the guiding philosophies shown daily at SUA.

### ***4x4 Collegiate Block Schedule***

Unique to SUA in northwest Ohio, the 4x4 Block mirrors a college schedule. SUA offers four 80-minute classes each day, with two semesters comprising the academic year. The 4x4 Block enables personal and meaningful instruction, lively and collaborative lesson plans, and smaller student ratios that provide in-depth learning and the opportunity to build meaningful relationships.

### ***College Quest***

SUA’s one-of-a-kind, interactive “best-fit” college process guides each student and her parents from freshman year through senior year to make the best possible choice for her college experience. This engaging method uses an interactive “road map” approach to the yearly gatherings. SUA is proud of its 100 percent four-year college acceptance rate. College Quest and a dedicated College Counselor are two of the reasons that the Class of 2023 secured more than \$19.4 million in college scholarships, and that remarkable amount was earned by 92 percent of the graduates.



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### ***All-Girls Atmosphere***

The empowering feelings of sisterhood and leadership permeate SUA. Students step out of their comfort zones into new activities and courses, participate in class, try out for different sports, or start a new student club. The all-girls, positive environment is an SUA core strength. Student confidence leads to personal growth and empowerment with lifelong impact. As the girls participate in SUA traditions throughout the years, such as Intramurals, Electric Run, and singing the alma mater, they form happy memories that bond them forever to their Arrow sisters and to more than 10,000 alumnae worldwide.

### ***Caring Community***

SUA faculty and staff routinely go “above and beyond,” modeling the Ursuline Core Value of *Care of the Individual*. Every single student is unique and important. SUA’s faculty and staff, along with the school’s counseling team, work with students to ensure that they are effectively managing the many aspects of a middle school or high school experience. SUA team members go the extra mile to forge connections with students and keep a watchful eye on their emotional and social well-being. This sense of a caring community is one of the hallmarks of St. Ursula Academy’s 170-year-old legacy.

### ***Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities***

SUA is known throughout the region for its vibrant school life. Whether a student loves sports, singing, science, school spirit, or service—or all of these and more—her life at SUA will be rich and rewarding because of the many activities that enhance our premier academics.

Our 13 varsity athletic programs in the high school, and CYO athletic offerings for Junior Academy students, enhance the total educational experience by teaching life lessons through sport. SUA’s reputation in athletics is stellar. Arrows hold past Ohio state titles in Softball, Volleyball, Tennis, and Swimming, and have been both State and National Champions in Dance.

In addition to a strong athletic program, SUA offers an unmatched experience for girls interested in fine and performing arts. The SUA musical is one of the most anticipated events of the school year and includes more than 80 students on the cast and crew.

SUA’s community of students is warm and inviting. We encourage girls to make the most of their SUA experience by joining clubs and organizations that challenge their minds, teach them something new, provide opportunities to make lifelong friendships, and allow them to just have fun. With more than 40 clubs and organizations to join, SUA offers a thriving school life for all our students.

### ***Campus and Facilities***

Of note, SUA has five science labs; an open-concept dining commons; state-of-the-art black box theater; a dance/yoga studio; weight room; field house and gymnasium; beautiful chapel; and three art studios. In the summer 2023, St. Ursula Academy added a state-of-the-art turf field on campus that accompanies the brand-new softball field built in 2019.