



## **DUCHESNE ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS**

Duchesne is emerging as the top high school for Catholic education in St. Charles. School spirit is high, enrollment is gaining momentum, and our Pioneer culture of teaching and learning continues to help each student reach his or her highest potential.

Additionally, Duchesne is currently upgrading the sound system in the gym and the Performing Arts Center (PAC). The PAC will also be getting an upgrade to the lighting system. Projects are underway to increase security inside and outside of our facilities. Thanks to the support of our many donors, the Esports Center was finished this past year, summer will see us updating another seven classrooms, and new HVAC systems will be installed in both the main building and at 310 N Duchesne Drive. Roofing replacements will begin in June. Additionally, DHS is investing in a state-of-the-art Robotics program.

### **IT'S AN EXCITING TIME**

As we look to the future of Duchesne, we know that a long-term plan will proactively address challenges and leverage opportunities that support our commitment to provide an exceptional, faith-based education that maximizes every student's potential.

For these reasons, we are embarking on the creation of a new Strategic Plan that will guide our work through the next five years.

### **OVERVIEW**

Duchesne is working with Boston-based Partners in Mission to develop our next Strategic Plan. PIM has facilitated extraordinarily successful, individualized strategic planning processes with hundreds of Catholic schools and dioceses across the U.S.

As we begin to build our Strategic Plan, we will be incorporating the ideas and opinions of key constituents throughout our community.

A Strategic Planning Steering Committee will be identified which will include representation from Board members, current parents, alumni parents, alumni, faculty and staff, coaches, and advisers. The Committee will be meeting over the course of six months to gather data with the assistance of Partners in Mission.

The Steering Committee will be gathering information regarding eight school domains: Academics, Advancement, Catholic Identity, Enrollment, Facilities, Finance, Governance, and Student Life. The perceived strengths and weaknesses of each of these individual domains will be gathered via school climate surveys, focus groups, and individual interviews with a broad range of constituents in our school community.

## **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN?**

The ultimate purpose of the plan is to continue helping Duchesne evolve from being an excellent school to being recognized as a top Catholic high school in Missouri.

This will be achieved by leveraging Pioneer alumni to share their experiences; seeking out innovative ways to tell the Duchesne story locally, nationally, and internationally; highlighting new opportunities; and identifying areas of improvement.

## **WHAT'S NEXT?**

We will be reaching out to members of our school community asking them to participate in the various stages of the strategic planning process. After the extensive assessment and analysis is complete and the new Strategic Plan is drafted, it will be submitted for approval by the Board of Directors in the spring of 2024. The strategic plan, based on stakeholder input, will include goals, objectives, relevant benchmarks, and an implementation framework. The finished product will serve as a transformational guiding light over the next five years.

Together, our hope is that after five years, after five months, even after five days – we are seeing change. We are providing more opportunities for students to discover their passions, to give back to their communities, to make a difference, to connect with others,

and explore their faith. We are seeing brighter and brighter futures for the students who walk through the doors, the hallways – and across the stage at Duchesne.

## **OVERVIEW**

On March 21, 2023, the School Administration met with our consultant, Partners in Mission, to discuss objectives, timelines, and project expectations. Michael Loyet from Partners in Mission led the session and walked the group through the process and the logic behind the process, and created a vision for what a successful strategic plan would look like when completed.

## **WHAT IS STRATEGIC PLANNING?**

A Strategic Plan aligns with the school's mission and communicates the vision to inspire our future. It collaboratively defines goals and objectives, and at the conclusion of the process, positions the school for transformational change.

## **WHY IS THE SCHOOL COMPLETING A 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN?**

The school advisory council and administration recognize that Duchesne has grown and accomplished much. We have a proud history of graduating young men and women who become models for transforming the world. We realize it is imperative that we have a documented vision that guides us, ensuring that our longstanding history of Catholic education triumphs in these ever-changing times. Over the next 9 months, we will examine eight critical domains and focus on where we have been, where we are, and where we want to be in the future. Please know that this process is a participative and collaborative effort, and we look forward to gaining your perspective.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER TO YOU?

This is your school and the Goals and Objectives that come out of the Strategic Plan will drive the direction of the school.

