

High School Principal Search

Hackett Catholic Prep

Kalamazoo, Michigan



<https://hackettcp.org/>

Hackett Catholic Prep



Hackett Catholic Prep is a Catholic, college-preparatory high school serving grades 9–12 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, Hackett emphasizes academic excellence, character formation, service, and spiritual growth, preparing students for post-secondary success and lifelong discipleship.

Hackett Catholic Prep is an integral member of the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo (CSGK), a unified system of Catholic schools serving the greater Kalamazoo region. Through this collaborative structure, Hackett benefits from shared services that strengthen operational excellence and allow school leadership to focus on mission-driven education.

System-level support includes Finance, Enrollment Management, Advancement, Marketing and Communications, Payroll and Business Services, Food Service, Technology, and Transportation. This integrated model promotes sustainability, consistency, and stewardship across the system while preserving Hackett Catholic Prep's distinct identity, culture, and educational mission. This level of support also allows the HCP Principal to focus his/her efforts on the school itself: teaching and learning, spiritual formation, student life, and community.



Kalamazoo

The greater Kalamazoo area is a vibrant and growing region of southwest Michigan that blends the amenities of a midsize metropolitan community with the warmth and accessibility of smaller cities and towns. The Kalamazoo-Portage metropolitan area is home to approximately 260,000 residents, offering a dynamic mix of cultural, educational, and economic opportunities just minutes from Hackett Catholic Prep. Home to Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College, the city benefits from a strong intellectual and cultural presence, enriching the arts, innovation, and educational collaboration. Kalamazoo is also a hub for global industry and healthcare, with major employers such as Stryker, Pfizer, and Zoetis contributing to a dynamic economy and a culture of innovation. With a lively community, strong neighborhoods, abundant outdoor recreation, and proximity to the major cities of Detroit and Chicago, Kalamazoo is an inviting place to live, work, and raise a family.

About the Position

The Principal of Hackett Catholic Prep serves as the chief academic leader of the school and is responsible for providing vision, leadership, and oversight of all academic and student-life programming. The Principal works collaboratively with the Superintendent, Canonical Administrator, faculty, staff, and governing bodies to ensure that the school's educational programs are aligned with the mission of Hackett Catholic Prep and the standards of the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

The Principal oversees curriculum, instruction, counseling, co-curricular and extracurricular programs, and athletics. He/she demonstrates a commitment to Catholic faith in interactions, serving as a spiritually grounded leader in all facets of the work. The Principal represents Hackett Catholic Prep to internal and external stakeholders, including the Diocese of Kalamazoo, parents, alumni, donors, prospective families, and the broader Kalamazoo community.

The Ideal Candidate Will:

- Be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church, with a demonstrated commitment to Church teachings and gospel values both personally and professionally.
- Demonstrate a passion for learning as evidenced by successful experiences in classroom instruction and school administration, supported by strong academic credentials; minimum Bachelor's degree, advanced degree (Master's) preferred.
- Provide effective leadership, oversight, and accountability for academic programming and student life at Hackett Catholic Prep.
- Oversee faculty, staff, academic facilities, student support services, calendar, handbooks, and co-curricular and extracurricular programs.
- Assess the effectiveness of curriculum and instructional programs through analysis of student outcomes, including data-based assessments.
- Foster a school culture marked by hospitality, mutual respect, academic excellence, and Christian virtue among students, families, faculty, and volunteers.
- Demonstrate excellent communication skills and reflect personal qualities well suited to interacting with external constituencies, including admissions efforts.
- Serve as an inspirational leader of a dynamic, faith-centered community while grounding decisions in discernment, goodwill, and *cura personalis* (care for the person).

Application Process



The Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Education (ILEE) has been retained to advise the Search Committee in its process. Interested candidates should contact Kent Hickey, ILEE Director of Leadership Formation, to discuss this opportunity at kent@ileeconnect.org The Search Committee is actively seeking to secure the next Principal of Hackett Catholic Prep with an aggressive timeline for completing the process and assumption of duties in July 2026.

1. Candidates who have completed a confidential conversation with Kent Hickey and are interested in submitting an application should provide the following as **individual documents** to Deacon Kurt Lucas, Associate Superintendent for Catholic Identity and Education Services, klucas@diokzoo.org
 - Resume
 - Cover letter
 - Professional references (3)
 - Statement of Catholic educational philosophy
 - Letter of good standing from Pastor on parish letterhead
2. Candidates who meet qualifications and expectations will be invited to an initial interview on a rolling basis. Reference and social media checks will be conducted for those candidates who advance to the semi-finalist stage.