



Head of School Search

Mission

Inspiring a passion for learning, a life of integrity, and a heart for Christian service.

The School

In the early 1920s, the San Jose Estates Development Company was in the midst of establishing a premier suburban residential community with plans for hundreds of homes, two hotels, a country club, a school, and a shopping center. The administrative building for the development company existed on the present site of San Jose Episcopal. Evidence of the development company can still be seen today in the crest emblazoned on the front and back of the school with the monogram SJE. The project ended in 1926 with many of the buildings never coming to completion when the anticipated real estate boom was not realized.

After the collapse of the San Jose Development Company, the land and buildings were purchased by Alfred I. duPont. For a brief time, the property housed a Roaring Twenties casino and even a gas station. In the late 1930s, Alfred I. duPont's widow, Mrs. Jessie Ball duPont, allowed some neighborhood Episcopalians to use the administration building for worship services and later as a chapel for students, and it was known as Grace Chapel. Mrs. duPont donated the property to the Episcopal Diocese of Florida in 1941 and Grace Chapel became a parish. In 1971, the name was changed to San Jose Episcopal Church, giving the initials S.J.E. in the crest new meaning.

The Day School began as a mission of the church with a Kindergarten program and was established to provide excellent academics in a Christian environment. This tradition continues today and the school has expanded and grown to now serve students in grades PreK3 through sixth grade.

In 1985, San Jose Episcopal Day School and San Jose Episcopal Church were honored and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The original building now forms the centerpiece of San Jose Episcopal Day School.

Governance

The school is a mission of San Jose Episcopal Church. The Board of Trustees and Vestry are the guardians of the school's mission. It is the responsibility of the Board and Vestry to ensure that the mission is appropriate, relevant, and vital to the community it serves. They are also responsible for the financial well-being of the school. The Board of Trustees, Vestry, Rector, and Head of School work in partnership in fulfilling these principles.

Statement of Philosophy

A passion for learning

We believe that relationships are central to our learning community, and the relationships between students, teachers and families are vital to the learning process. We value extraordinary teachers who support students in the discovery and development of their gifts and talents. We celebrate passionate, self-motivated, lifelong learners. To prepare students for success in an ever-changing world, we embrace learning experiences that allow students to develop creative problem-solving skills and critical thinking. We empower students to take a responsible role in their learning and support independent thought. We provide a safe and supportive environment and encourage children to be adventurous, to take risks and to view failure as integral to learning. We celebrate student effort and growth, embrace the value of the learning process, and promote perseverance and reflection.

A life of integrity

We value the development of character and integrity above academic pursuits. We believe an integral component of our curriculum is spiritual development, which is woven throughout the fabric of our learning community. We promote students taking responsibility for their actions. We provide leadership opportunities for students so they may experience the power and potential of an individual's influence on his or her community and the world. Above all, we encourage students to practice empathy and to be role models in treating others with compassion, love and kindness.

A heart for Christian service

We understand that all people are worthy of respect and dignity and believe we are all part of an interconnected world. We value diversity of thought, background, religion, and race, and know that diversity nurtures compassion and empathy. We live out our faith in a relational, caring manner and are responsible stewards of our world and environment, realizing that our local actions impact our global community. We experience the joy of making a difference for others through service-learning. We recognize social involvement and sharing the Good News as hallmarks of our Episcopal identity.

The Position

SJEDS seeks a leader who values traditions, teamwork, and the Episcopal Identity which recognizes the image of God in all people. San Jose is a small, yet vibrant, organization whose next Head of School will be an exceptional leader supported by their own spirituality and a willingness to join in our learning and worshipping community. The Head will work collaboratively with our Rector, Board, and Vestry to enable and support the meaningful relationships that come with a San Jose experience. Specifically, the next Head of School at San Jose will be focused on the following areas:

- Continuing a long tradition of Academic Excellence
- Fostering excellence in teaching and maintaining a pleasant work environment for our educators and staff
- Keeping our campus the place of joy and individualized support that it has been for children since its founding in 1950
- Working within our governance structures to share a campus fairly and effectively among our constituencies
- Sharing the story of San Jose with the larger community to strengthen enrollment and the financial support of the mission entrusted to us

To Apply

Interested candidates should provide a resume, cover letter highlighting their interest in and qualifications for the position, statement of philosophy of leadership, and list of five (5) professional references with contact information as an attachment by November 30, 2021. These materials should be sent to Kristie Bliss / Kbliss@sjeds.org/904-733-0352