



St. Catherine's School

# Director of Athletics & Strategic Partnerships

*2024-2025 Prospectus*





# Welcome to St. Catherine's!

St. Catherine's School is an independent PK-12 school dedicated to the education of girls. We equip students with the intellect and courage needed to enter the changing world with a confident voice and a sure-footed expectation that they are prepared for a life without limits.

Located in the heart of Richmond, Virginia, St. Catherine's provides a modern, well-rounded educational experience rooted in more than a century of history and tradition. From our revolutionary past to our dynamic present, St. Catherine's has always focused on preparing students for a boundless future.

We know that opportunities and challenges often come when we least expect them. That is why everything we do – from the classroom to the playing field to the stage and beyond – ensures that the girls and young women at St. Catherine's School are ready for what lies ahead.

## Our Mission

*St. Catherine's School provides a rigorous education that prepares girls with diverse perspectives for a lifetime of learning, leadership, and service in a global community.*

## Our Motto

*What we keep we lose;  
only what we give remains our own.*

## Fast Facts

- Founded in 1890
- 945 Students
- 246 Faculty & Staff
- A+ overall grade on Niche.com





# St. Catherine's Leadership



Cindy Trask returned to St. Catherine's in July 2021 as the School's 12th Head of School. She served as the Head of Upper School at The Westminster Schools in Atlanta (2016-2021), where she led approximately 850 students and more than 130 faculty and staff.

In this role, she oversaw all aspects of the Upper School's academic programs, student life and operations. Cindy was responsible for recruiting, motivating, hiring and supervising faculty and staff, played a leadership role in admissions and actively participated in fundraising campaigns.

Cindy began her career in education at St. Johnsbury Academy in Vermont teaching AP Biology and Chemistry and was promoted to Science Department Chair, during which time she created an Upper School STEM curriculum and a Middle School Forensics program.

She taught Biology and Chemistry at Collegiate School (Richmond) for two years before joining St. Catherine's in 2008. At St. Catherine's, Cindy was the Science Department Chair, Chair of the STEM Task Force, Chair of St. Catherine's and St. Christopher's Joint Department Chair Committee and a Digital Task Force Member. She left St. Catherine's to assume a dual role of Director of the Middle School and Director of Academics at Columbus (OH) School for Girls. As Director of Academics, Cindy oversaw all aspects of the PreK-12 academic curriculum.

Her efforts have been recognized with many awards and appointments including St. Catherine's Dillon Barnett Award, St. Catherine's Allen W. Becker Faculty Award in recognition by her peers, Outstanding Service Award from St. Johnsbury Academy Trustees, AP consultant and workshop leader and a board member of Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

She graduated with honors from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada with a B.S. in Biology and Mathematics and earned a Bachelor of Education degree in Secondary Science from St. Mary's University in Canada and a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Richmond.

*St. Catherine's athletics program is one of the most visible and important departments at our school. It provides students with a healthy opportunity to grow into confident leaders, forge deep bonds and strengthen their character. We offer top-notch facilities because we believe in the power of athletics to shape students' futures at St. Catherine's and beyond.*

**Cindy Trask, Head of School**





## Committed. Competitive. Girls.

At St. Catherine's, every athletic resource, facility and sport offering is designed for the St. Catherine's student-athlete. And the results speak loudly. Led by award-winning coaches, we develop our student-athletes to be the best players that they can be and to be the best people that they can be. St. Catherine's teams win titles and our students frequently receive League, State, and All Metro honors. Colleges actively recruit St. Catherine's athletes because our students are prepared to compete at all NCAA levels.

### By the Numbers

- 59 Virginia State Championship Titles
- 150 League of Independent Schools (LIS) Championship Titles
- 70% of eligible students compete on athletic teams

## Sports Offerings

### Fall

- Cross Country (Middle School, JV and Varsity)
- Field Hockey (Middle School, JV and Varsity)
- Tennis (JV and Varsity)
- Volleyball (Middle School, JV and Varsity)

### Winter

- Basketball (Middle School, JV and Varsity)
- Diving (JV/Varsity)
- Indoor Track (Middle School and JV/Varsity)
- Squash (JV and Varsity)
- Swimming (Middle School and JV/Varsity)

### Spring

- Golf (JV/Varsity)
- Lacrosse (Middle School, JV and Varsity)
- Soccer (JV and Varsity)
- Softball (JV and Varsity)
- Track and Field (Middle School, JV and Varsity)

## Facilities Highlights

### Kenny Sports and Fitness Center

70,000 square foot Kenny Sports and Fitness Center located on our main campus

### Bolling Field House at St. Christopher's School

53,000 square foot field house with 200 meter indoor track shared with St. Christopher's

### Goochland Sports Complex

145-acre campus in nearby Goochland County supports cross country, soccer, field hockey, lacrosse and softball

### Dayton Field

Water-based AstroTurf field for field hockey, lacrosse and other activities

### Aquatics Facility

Our eight-lane competitive aquatics facility, complete with diving platforms, is located in the Kenny Sports and Fitness Center



## Meet the Team



### Bethany Taibl

Assistant Director of Athletics, Athletic Operations & Facilities Coordinator



### Michael Edwards

Assistant Director of Athletics



### Rachel Gruber

Head Athletic Trainer





# Our City

People love working and living in Richmond because of our unique blend of history, culture and economic opportunity. The city is steeped in historical significance and boasts a cost of living significantly lower than many major U.S. cities. Our diverse economy is driven by our strong job market in sectors like finance, healthcare and the arts. This makes it an ideal place for anyone looking to enjoy a high quality of life without breaking the bank.

Outside of school and work, Richmond offers numerous opportunities to get out and have fun. The city's vibrant cultural scene features a range of theaters, music venues, art galleries and more. We also have a fantastic community of restaurants, food trucks and pop-ups that offer a range of dining options. Located on the banks of the James River, Richmond offers a wealth of outdoor recreational opportunities including hiking, kayaking, rafting, biking and more.

Richmond is also home to several esteemed colleges and universities, including the University of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University.

- #7 Mid-Sized American Cities of the Future for Economic Potential, Human Capital and Lifestyle – FDI Intelligence
- Best Place To Live in America – Business Insider
- One of “The South’s Best Food Cities 2020” – Southern Living
- Top 10 Best Cities for Art Lovers in the U.S. – ApartmentGuide.com
- Seven Fortune 500 headquarters

Photo Credit: Homes.com

# Our Neighborhood

St. Catherine’s is located at 6001 Grove Avenue, in the heart of Richmond’ “Near West End.” The intersection of Libbie and Grove Avenues is the center of a popular, walkable neighborhood that brings a small town, community feel to a metro area with more than 1.3 million residents.

Charming storefronts, wide sidewalks and plenty of patio dining give our neighborhood a friendly bustle that appeals to everyone from longtime residents to young families and students from nearby universities. With plenty of restaurants and shopping within a few blocks, you’ll find most everything you need close at hand.

There are plenty of housing options available nearby, as well. These include magnificent historic houses, new construction, condos, rentals and more. Our brother school, St. Christopher’s, is located less than half a mile up the street.

Zoom out a little further and you’ll find St. Catherine’s is easily accessible from some of the Richmond region’s other popular areas including Glen Allen, Midlothian, the Fan, Tuckahoe, Manakin Sabot and more.





# Position Summary

St. Catherine's School is seeking a highly motivated and passionate individual for the role of Director of Athletics and Strategic Partnerships. This candidate will build on an incredibly strong foundation in St. Catherine's Athletic Department. Since 2000, St. Catherine's teams have won 59 Virginia State Championship titles and 150 League of Independent Schools Championships. In that same time, nearly 200 St. Catherine's student-athletes have gone on to compete at the collegiate level. Niche.com recently recognized St. Catherine's as [the best high school for athletes in Richmond](#).

Ideal candidates will embrace the community-facing nature of this role and will work to continue and create strong relationships with the greater Richmond community. These partnerships should directly benefit the student-athlete experience and overall program success through camps, clinics and outreach. The candidate should have a strong understanding of best practices in PK-12 girl's athletic programs and overall health and wellness.

The Director of Athletics and Strategic Partnerships should build positive and collegial internal relationships with St. Catherine's students, coaches, faculty, and families. This individual should also have strong relationships with local, regional, and national K-12 and collegiate athletics leaders and organizations as they continue to learn and grow within the profession.

This position participates as a member of the Executive Leadership Team and has a significant impact on St. Catherine's overall student and community experience.

## Key Responsibilities

- Lead and manage the school's athletics program, including budget management, implementing strategic planning, and coordinating schedules.
- Oversee the physical education program, evaluating and updating curriculum as needed, ensuring compliance with safety regulations, and promoting lifelong fitness habits among students.
- Recruit and retain coaches and staff to maintain program continuity, including goal-setting, feedback, and regular professional development.
- Work closely with the Assistant Athletic Directors to manage all aspects of athletics including but not limited to facilities, scheduling, and student support.
- Foster a positive and inclusive culture, shaping the future of both programs for continued excellence.
- Find joy in working with students and actively participate in the School community via special events, professional learning days, and the normal calendar of School events, including some nights and weekends.

## Qualifications and Key Skills

- A commitment to St. Catherine's [mission](#), core values, policies, and initiatives.
- A clear commitment to [access, equity, and belonging](#).
- A commitment to best practices in education and a dedication to best practices for girls.
- Personal traits and communication style that nurture the growth of girls and young women.
- Bachelor's degree in related field required (Master's degree preferred).
- Demonstrated success in managing an athletics program with a minimum of five years at the senior level.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, both oral and written.

## Collaborative Partnerships

The Director of Athletics and Strategic Partnerships will collaborate with other St. Catherine's leaders, including:

- The Chief Operating Officer, Director of Facilities, and the Facilities team to maintain all athletic facilities;
- The Admissions Office to identify and promote the athletic program to applicants of St. Catherine's and prospective students and families;
- The College Counseling Office to help students navigate the athletic dimension of their college application and recruitment process;
- The Director of Auxiliary Programs to build plans for facility rentals, partnerships, camps, and clinics;
- The Alumnae and Development Office to host Alumnae events, including promoting the Athletic Boosters, as well as St. Catherine's Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions, Reunion weekend events, and fundraising efforts; and
- The Executive Leadership team to represent the perspective of athletics, as it fits into the overall school function, and how it impacts the overall student experience.

The Director of Athletics and Strategic Partnerships will also collaborate closely with external partners including feeder schools, regional and national athletic associations, and relevant organizations.

## How to Apply

The Finney Search Group has been engaged to provide candidates to the School. All interested individuals are encouraged to submit their resumes via <https://www.thefinneysearchgroup.com/st-catherines-ad-application>.

Deadline for receipt of full application materials is December 6, 2024.