



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 9, 2018

Contact: Bryan Jones, Chairman
bryanjones@hntb.com
225.218.3648

Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School Announces Search for New President

BATON ROUGE, La. – Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School has publicly released the job description for the role of President and its intention to identify and select a new leader for the school in advance of the 2018-2019 academic year.

In only two school years of operation, Cristo Rey--the only such school in Louisiana--has already become one of Baton Rouge's and the state's most dynamic college preparatory and workforce-oriented high schools. It has grown its student population to 112 students and expects to more than triple its size within the next two school years. The school has secured partnerships with dozens of corporate work study program partners and has built a strong and engaged board of directors, and a talented and skilled faculty and staff, led by principal Claire Willis and Vice President for Community Engagement Carissa Graves. Cristo Rey returned to its new temporary facility at the original North Baton Rouge campus on St. Gerard Avenue in early 2018.

"This is such an exciting time for the students, parents and faculty of Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School," said Board Chairman Bryan Jones. "We are anxiously looking forward to identifying and engaging our new leader with the growing chorus of community and business leaders to take the school to new heights and maximize its positive impact on Baton Rouge"

"We are seeking a skilled leader and communicator who believes in the transformational Cristo Rey mission and successful operational model," said Stephen Waguespack, chair of the presidential search committee. "This person will not only lead the organization and collaborate with community leaders, but will also play a critical role in helping prepare these students for life in society, in college, the work place and their future roles as responsible and mature adults and mentors of their own."

Until the president is selected, an Interim President has been appointed. Board Member and Finance Committee Chairman J.H. "Jay" Campbell, Jr. has graciously accepted the Board's request to serve through the transition period.

"I am flattered and honored to serve in this role and look forward to actively working with the new president to ensure a seamless transition. The Cristo Rey transformative mission is a proven educational model that promotes Judeo-Christian values and principles in a Catholic school, which has achieved extraordinary success across the country and the Baton Rouge campus is no exception," says Campbell.

The job description is below. All interested parties should contact Presidential Search Committee, c/o Stephen Waguespack at presidentalsearch@cristoreybr.org.

XXX



THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT

Who We Are

Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School, located in north Baton Rouge on St. Gerard Avenue, is part of the national Cristo Rey Network (CRN). Like all Cristo Rey locations across the country, the school uses a rigorous academic model, supported by best practices in instruction and assessment, to prepare students with a broad range of intellectual abilities for college and life. Further, CRN schools employ an innovative Corporate Work Study Program that provides students with real world work experiences. In this highly unique educational model, every CRN student works an average of five days a month to fund a majority of her or his schooling. In so doing, students gain invaluable job experience, grow in self-confidence and self-esteem and realize the relevance of social interaction in the work place and in the classroom. Students work in various corporate and business settings including law firms, banks, hospitals, universities, and other professional organizations.

The school opened its doors to its inaugural freshmen class in the fall of 2016 and was soon interrupted by that year's historic floods. In a very short time, the school came back stronger than ever. Like all Cristo Rey schools, it is a Catholic, college preparatory high school for students of all faiths from families of limited financial means. The school is co-educational and serves students of diverse backgrounds. We help our students grow intellectually, academically, emotionally, spiritually, socially, ethically and morally. Our vision and aspiration is that all students graduate from high school and college and become the future leaders in our churches, institutions, businesses, nonprofits and the community at large, bolstered by the values and principles learned, witnessed and lived through their educational and work experiences.

Who We Seek

We intend to recruit a skilled Catholic leader who is passionate about the transformational Cristo Rey mission. The President will be the chief executive officer, having overall responsibility for the management of Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School. The President will lead the school in development, implementation, maintenance, and monitoring of an exceptional program that supports and promotes the school's mission and values with special emphasis on the Corporate Work Study Program and the Judeo-Christian values inherent in a Catholic school.

Qualifications

- Awareness of and commitment to the Catholic traditions of education, service and social justice, the credibility to lead and represent a Catholic organization with integrity and the ability to work with diverse Catholic church leaders, lay and clerical
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills, including proven ability to engage and inspire a wide range of stakeholders, and the ability to build creative and mutually beneficial relationships within the philanthropic, corporate, public and nonprofit sectors
- Proven fundraising and/or revenue generating success, preferably in the non-profit sector and with foundations
- Significant visionary leadership and management experience, with demonstrated success in addressing immediate organizational needs while driving toward longer-term goals with buy-in from all stakeholders



- The executive presence to inspire organizational and professional confidence, passion and persistence in an ambitious, fast-paced and results-oriented period of growth, all while maintaining a positive work environment
- The maturity and wisdom required to inspire Board members' engagement in the mission
- Strategic planning experience and execution capabilities
- Strong budget management skills
- Previous experience in the education sector preferred and/or the sensibilities and perspective necessary to validate her/his leadership in a school
- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills, including evidence of enhancing an organization's financial strength and sustainability
- Unquestionable integrity
- Bachelor's degree; post baccalaureate degree preferred

The President reports to the Board of Directors. This summary does not describe all job duties; a full job description is available upon request. This position will ideally be filled before the 2018 fall school semester begins.

Application Procedures

If you have the requested background and a passion for the mission of this school, we invite you to apply. We require a completed employment application (attached) along with a cover letter explaining why you believe that you are a match for this unique opportunity to be instrumental in leading Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School. Please e-mail your resumé, employment application, and cover letter to Presidential Search Committee, c/o Stephen Waguespack at presidentalsearch@cristoreybr.org. In addition, include a statement of your educational beliefs and your vision for Cristo Rey Baton Rouge Franciscan High School.