



ASSUMPTION
HIGH SCHOOL

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023-2028

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Community of Assumption,

Throughout our history, Assumption High School has been recognized as a leader in education—always at the forefront of innovation in our mission to empower each individual student for success academically, spiritually, socially, and personally.

In fact, many programs now standard at local Catholic high schools were the result of visionary planning, dedicated study, and successful initial implementation by AHS. Block scheduling, learning differences programs, four-year service and retreat programs, and mission-based foreign exchange programs are just a few. We are proud of our demonstrated success in developing students able to chart their own paths forward and impact their communities *by being socially responsible women who are committed to gospel living, lifelong learning, and a life of leadership and service in society.*

But we are never content to rest on our laurels. As we continue to build on our many successes of the past, our Board of Directors has embarked on a new strategic vision that ensures Assumption will continue to flourish and thrive well into the future.


Assumption comes to this plan in a position of strength having achieved much over these past several years. Among them are the recent campus expansion, successful capital campaign, and several noteworthy accolades. This past year alone, Assumption received the highest possible honor and was named an **International School of Distinction** by Cognia, the foremost accrediting body globally for primary and secondary schools. We also received a prestigious **President's Award for Innovation in Education** by the National Catholic Education Association for our advocacy and social justice programs, and we were selected as the **BEST Private High School** in Louisville through the *Courier-Journal's* Community Choice Awards Program for two consecutive years - in 2022 and again in 2023.

The work presented in this five-year strategic plan is the result of the input of many, including board members, administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents, alumnae, community members, friends, and donors of Assumption. It's the culmination of over six months of intensive effort led by our board and directed by our Strategic Planning Committee along with six Core Planning Teams in the following critical areas: Mission, Academics & Technology, Leadership & Engagement, Campus & Facilities, Marketing & Admissions, and Funding.

While aspirational and bold, the plan serves as a continual guide in achieving our goals and objectives while delivering on what Assumption is known for – innovation and excellence in education.

In closing, we extend our deepest gratitude to the many constituents whose direction, guidance, and insights were instrumental in forming our future vision. I look forward to sharing regular updates on our progress and ask for your continued prayers and support as we further the legacy of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, and engage in the life-changing work of bettering society through the careful instruction of women.

Sincerely,

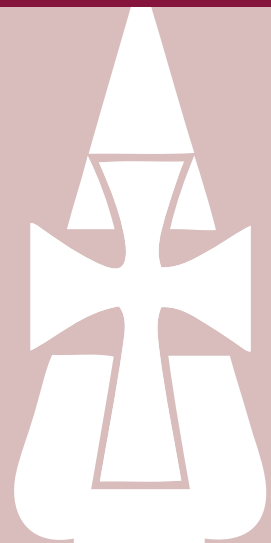


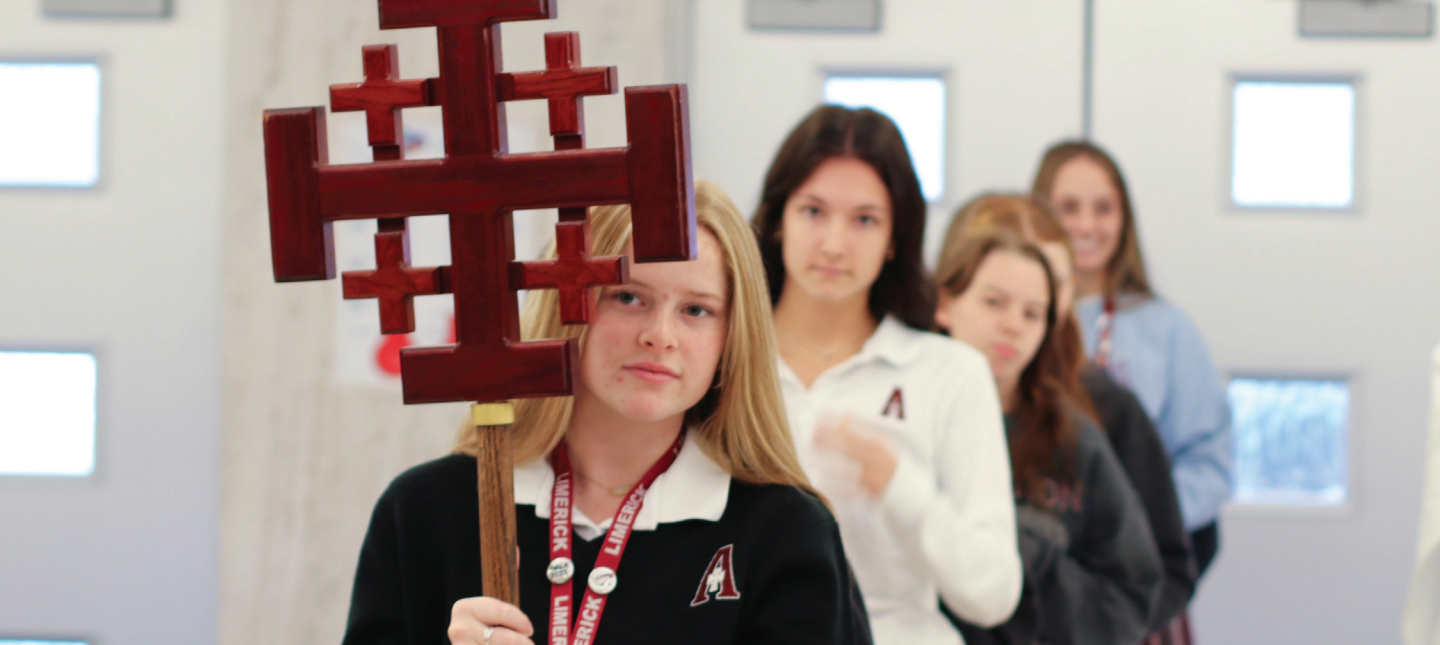
Mary Lang
President



MISSION STATEMENT

Rooted in the values of Jesus Christ and the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, Assumption High School, dedicated to the development of the whole person, educates young women in a Catholic community where faith guides, compassion inspires, integrity matters, and excellence empowers.





STUDENT EXPERIENCE: MISSION

CURRENT STATE: Assumption's identity as a Catholic high school in the Mercy tradition, that provides an inclusive environment for students, faculty, staff, and board members, is strong. However, several areas of growth are needed.

FUTURE STATE: Achieving the goals in this strategic plan will advance Assumption's ability to fully implement the school's mission and vision.

GOAL #1 – Address how to apply Mercy values and principles to exemplify a strong Catholic identity in an increasingly secular world.

GOAL #2 – Ensure that Assumption's Mercy heritage and commitment to Mercy values is explicitly conveyed in all areas, including our school facilities, processes, and marketing initiatives.

GOAL #3 – Establish a school culture that reflects the diversity of the larger community; provides a strong sense of belonging for students, faculty, staff, and board; and ensures a process of continuous assessment and improvement.



CKMANN TECHNOLOGY LAB



STUDENT EXPERIENCE: ACADEMICS & TECHNOLOGY

CURRENT STATE: Assumption continues to be recognized for its high-quality academic program and educational technology. However, further advances are needed to support individual students who do not meet established standards or require non-traditional interventions for optimal success.

FUTURE STATE: Assumption will set the standard for superior student-focused, customized, flexible, Catholic secondary education in the region.



GOAL #1 - Fully implement the Professional Learning Community (PLC) model as the foundation for teaching and learning at Assumption High School.

GOAL #2- Develop and implement a curriculum that encompasses both traditional, college-prep coursework alongside career, life, and leadership skill development.

GOAL #3- Implement an innovative schedule to accommodate and support both the curricular and co-curricular goals in this plan.

GOAL #4- Strengthen technological literacy in faculty, staff, and students.

GOAL #5- Recruit and retain diverse and high quality faculty and staff.



STUDENT EXPERIENCE: LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE: Assumption High School has a decades-long commitment to students' social-emotional learning and development of life long skills in the areas of community engagement and leadership.

FUTURE STATE: Formalizing a life and leadership skills curriculum designed to meet students' needs aligned to the Outcomes of an Assumption Education and our mission statement that will lead to measurable and impactful results in our students' development.



GOAL #1 – Redefine what engagement means at Assumption to maximize and enhance student learning and experience and equip students with skills and knowledge to most effectively impact their current and future communities.

GOAL #2 – Using the newly developed Assumption Philosophy of Engagement, develop a life and leadership skills curriculum designed to deliver mastery of the Outcomes of an Assumption Education.

GOAL #3 – Ensure personnel/staffing structure is in place to support student engagement and effective delivery of life and leadership skills curriculum with clearly defined student outcomes grounded in the Outcomes of an Assumption Education.



STUDENT EXPERIENCE: CAMPUS & FACILITIES

CURRENT STATE: Assumption’s recent expansion addressed many of our critical space needs; however, continued investment in our facilities and campus is needed.

FUTURE STATE: Initiatives to expand and enhance the campus will advance the school’s programs and increase safety and security.

GOAL #1 – Continue to expand our overall campus footprint with a focus on acquiring property adjacent to or in close proximity to our current campus.

GOAL #2 – Maximize and expand our campus with a focus on enhancing off-site parking, expanding our athletic facilities, and meeting academic space needs.

GOAL #3 – Continue to modernize and update our current school buildings which includes investing in sustainability for a “greener” campus.





MARKETING & ADMISSIONS

CURRENT STATE: Assumption High School is the largest all-girls Catholic high school in Louisville and currently enjoys a healthy enrollment. However, strengthening enrollment and retention processes and sustaining a consistent marketing message is needed.

FUTURE STATE: Assumption will maintain a consistent enrollment and message a clear and cohesive brand, aligned with our mission, to all constituents.

GOAL #1 - Optimize student enrollment to maximize our facilities and staffing and to support long-term sustainability.

GOAL #2- Invest additional resources to further grow our brand and brand identity.

GOAL #3- Strengthen our brand identity across all mediums with an emphasis on articulating what makes Assumption unique and sharing our many success stories.





FUNDING

CURRENT STATE: Assumption is fiscally sound, but areas of growth are needed to ensure our financial future.

FUTURE STATE: Assumption will engage our many constituents, increase our unrestricted and endowed funds, and allocate necessary resources to fund strategic priorities.

GOAL #1 – Grow our endowed and unrestricted funds by \$5M in the next five years.

GOAL #2 – Increase tuition assistance so more deserving young women can receive a life-changing Assumption education.

GOAL #3 – Increase engagement and enhance the support from our many constituents.



CORE PLANNING TEAMS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

Carole Pfeffer, Ph.D. '70 – Chair
Hank Robinson – Vice Chair
Mary Morrow – Treasurer
Diane Gahafer '94 – Secretary

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Ann Burka Bauer '74
John J. Buchino, M.D.
Sierra Ashley Davis '97
Phil Eschels
Kelley Herde Kerger '07
Mary Lang
Mark Laemmler
Charlie Leis
Hardy MacKenzie, Ph.D.
Patty Murphy Makatsaria '90
Michael J. Marshall, Ed.D.
Sr. Diana Newton, R.S.M. '65
Richard Pickren
Rosemary Bisig-Smith '59
Mark Wiegand, Ph.D.
Yandell Wood

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Megan Dunlevy Bennett '08
John J. Buchino, M.D.
Elisabeth Russo Cassady '02
Dawn Deweese
Michelle Coke Farmer '94
Stella Ferree '23
Diane Gahafer '94
Deacon Scott Haner
Mary Lang
Charlie Leis
Michael J. Marshall, Ed.D.
Mildretta Martin
Laura Matis
Mary Morrow
Carole Pfeffer, Ph.D. '70
Lisa Pinkston
Lisa Raley
Hank Robinson
Paula Spugnardi H'21
Mary Ann Steutermann
Martha Pfaadt Tedesco '90
Bethany Yates '03

STUDENT EXPERIENCE: MISSION

Cindi Baughman H'08
Rosemary Bisig-Smith '59
Michael Blum
Diane Thorne Darst '87
Dawn Deweese
Phil Eschels
Mildretta Martin
Sr. Diana Newton, R.S.M. '65
Greg Smith
Lydia Stephens '23
Mary Ann Steutermann
Steven Straub
Denise Waggener

STUDENT EXPERIENCE: ACADEMICS & TECHNOLOGY

Pam Conway
Kayla Daley
Jill Eichberger '23
Jill Elder '00
Tom Ferree
Judy Fieldhouse H'19
Ian Husk
Terri Kurtz
Hardy MacKenzie, Ph.D.
Jackie Metry
Carole Pfeffer, Ph.D. '70
Theresa Liebert Schuhmann '92
Paula Spugnardi H'21
Martha Pfaadt Tedesco '90
Kristen Nakamura Wallitsch, Ph.D. '96
Jessica Hash Williams '98

STUDENT EXPERIENCE: LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

Rachel Bell '16
Dr. Elizabeth Todd Byron '06
Sierra Ashley Davis '97
Stella Ferree '23
Diane Gahafer '94
Erin Gary '87
Beth Long '92
Lisa Pinkston
Jennifer Fox Ruckriegel '00
Jody Schaefer H'21
Theresa Liebert Schuhmann '92
Mary Ann Steutermann
Martha Pfaadt Tedesco '90
Kristin Walsh
Dr. Lisa Wieland

STUDENT EXPERIENCE: CAMPUS & FACILITIES

Ann Burka Bauer '74
Elizabeth Bender
John J. Buchino, M.D.
Michael Clark
Samantha Dues '25
Michelle Coke Farmer '94
Ian Husk
Mary Lang
Daniel Miles
Richard Pickren
Lisa Pinkston
Steve Plas
Lisa Raley
Dave Springer

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS

Elisabeth Russo Cassady '02
Michelle Coke Farmer '94
Lindsay Scherr Finley '95
Kelsey Gunter '08
Abbey Holland '23
Lauren Keeling
Mary Lang
Michael J. Marshall, Ed.D.
Cindy Schurfranz Mason '91
Laura Matis
Colleen Murphy '95
Lisa Pinkston
Jody Schaefer H'21
Mark Wiegand, Ph.D.

FUNDING

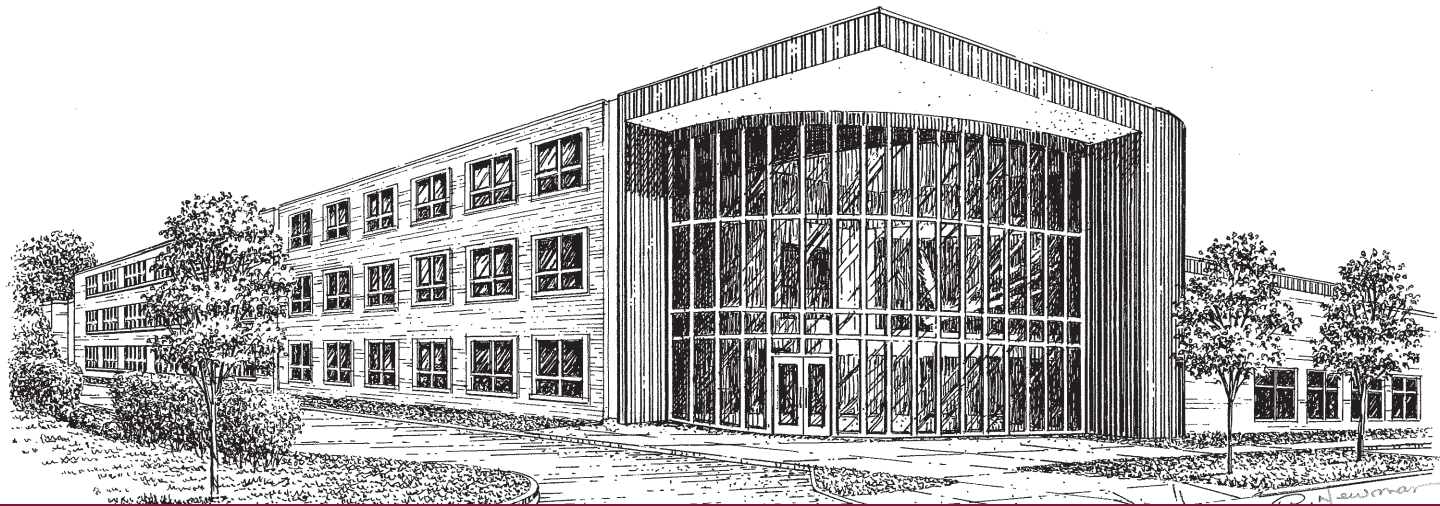
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Mark Laemmler
Mary Lang
Charlie Leis
Patty Murphy Makatsaria '90
Sean Miranda
Mary Morrow
Lisa Raley
Hank Robinson



VISION STATEMENT

Assumption thrives as the college preparatory school of choice for young women by providing a wide range of educational and co-curricular programs that are complemented by spiritual and physical development opportunities. This unique experience educates the whole person in a caring, Christian environment that is permeated with the charisma of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. Assumption graduates are socially responsible women, committed to gospel living, lifelong learning, and a life of leadership and service in society. We cultivate the investment and involvement of the community so that the legacy of this Catholic Mercy-sponsored school lives on for generations.

FAITH GUIDES
COMPASSION INSPIRES
INTEGRITY MATTERS
EXCELLENCE EMPOWERS



ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL

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