



# HEAD OF SCHOOL

January 28, 2026

CATHOLIC RECRUITER ASSOCIATES

EXECUTIVE SEARCH • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING



## BACKGROUND

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**Bishop Ludden-Grimes Junior-Senior High School**, an International Baccalaureate-accredited Catholic school serving grades 7-12, seeks a mission-driven, visionary Head of School to lead the community into its next chapter of faith, academic excellence, and growth.

Formed through the merger of two historic Catholic high schools, Bishop Ludden-Grimes stands at a pivotal and exciting moment. The Head of School serves as the chief administrator, instructional leader, and executive leader of the school, responsible for unifying the community, strengthening Catholic identity, elevating academic excellence, growing enrollment, ensuring operational effectiveness, and advancing long-term financial sustainability.

This role reports directly to the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent of Catholic Schools and works collaboratively with diocesan leadership to advance the mission of Catholic education in Central New York.

## Key Responsibilities:

### **Instructional Leadership and Academic Excellence**

- Serve as the primary instructional leader fostering a culture of academic excellence and continuous improvement.
- Provide leadership and oversight of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and academic programs.
- Use data to inform decisions and strengthen student outcomes.
- Observe and evaluate teaching practices and support professional growth.
- Champion innovation, technology integration, and International Baccalaureate program success.

### **Faith-Based Leadership and School Culture**

- Promote and uphold Catholic identity throughout all aspects of school life.
- Foster a safe, supportive, and faith-filled environment.
- Model Christ-centered leadership and build unity across the merged community.

### **Personnel Leadership and Human Resources**

- Recruit, hire, supervise, and evaluate faculty, staff, and administrators.
- Provide coaching and professional development.
- Foster a collaborative, mission-driven professional culture.

### **Student Life and Formation**

- Oversee athletics, clubs, and extracurricular programs.
- Establish and enforce a fair code of student conduct.
- Promote student well-being and leadership development.

### **Enrollment Growth and Community Engagement**

- Lead strategic efforts to attract and retain students.
- Serve as the primary ambassador of the school throughout the Syracuse community.
- Strengthen relationships with parishes, feeder schools, alumni, and partners.

### **Advancement and Financial Stewardship**

- Support donor engagement and advancement initiatives.
- Collaborate with leadership to ensure financial sustainability.

### **Operational and Strategic Leadership**

- Oversee budgeting, facilities, safety, and school operations.
- Lead strategic planning and guide post-merger unification.

## Qualifications:

- Practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with a commitment to Catholic education.
- Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or related field.
- New York State School Administrator Certification (or eligibility) required.
- Minimum of 5 years of educational leadership experience.
- Demonstrated success in instructional leadership and school management.
- Strong communication, organizational, and leadership skills.

## Personal Attributes:

- Unifier who builds trust and community
- Visible and authentic person of faith
- Confident yet humble leader
- Strategic thinker with practical execution skills
- Strong communicator and relationship-builder



## Living in Syracuse, New York

Syracuse offers an exceptional quality of life with affordable living, welcoming neighborhoods, strong community spirit, and access to the natural beauty of Central New York and the Finger Lakes region. With respected colleges and universities, a vibrant arts scene, and four-season recreation, Syracuse is an outstanding place for families and school leaders alike.



## A Diocesan Priority for the Future of Catholic Education

Bishop Ludden-Grimes Junior-Senior High School was established as part of a strategic diocesan initiative to strengthen and sustain Catholic secondary education in Central New York. By uniting the traditions, talents, and resources of Bishop Ludden and Bishop Grimes, the Diocese of Syracuse is investing in a vibrant, future-focused school designed to serve students for generations to come.

Diocesan leadership has affirmed that this unification is rooted in a commitment to long-term vitality, academic excellence, and expanded opportunities for students. The unified school integrates the strongest academic programs from both communities — including International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, New York State Regents, and dual-enrollment coursework — while also expanding extracurricular offerings in athletics, fine arts, clubs, and student leadership.

The school's name honors Bishops Ludden and Grimes, the first and second Bishops of Syracuse, and embraces Blessed Carlo Acutis as a spiritual patron — a modern witness to youthful faith and evangelization. Leading Bishop Ludden-Grimes offers a rare opportunity to shape the identity, culture, and future of a newly unified Catholic school community grounded in legacy and energized by possibility.

## Bishop Ludden-Grimes Fast Facts

- School Type: Private, Catholic, co-educational
- Grades Served: 7-12
- Enrollment: Approximately 360 students
- Affiliation: Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse
- Academic Distinction: International Baccalaureate (IB) Accredited School
- Student Experience: Competitive athletics, fine arts, clubs, leadership, and service programs



**Salary:** Commensurate with background and experience. Comprehensive benefit program (details will be furnished to finalist candidates).

**Application Deadline:** February 28, 2026

*(We reserve the right to shorten the deadline for applications if we have sufficient interest. Please apply early to ensure your background will be considered.)*

**For consideration, please email a resume and cover letter of interest to:**

Marie Keith  
Vice President, Education  
Catholic Recruiter Associates  
**Marie@CatholicRecruiter.com**

**Note:** Only those selected for an interview with the search committee will be contacted.

This position serves a vital religious function that supports the mission and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church.

Catholic Recruiter Associates and Bishop Ludden-Grimes reserve the right to shorten the search timeline if qualified candidates are secured prior to the deadline.

Search managed by:

**CATHOLIC RECRUITER ASSOCIATES**

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