



## BSM 2020: Our Future Legacy

At Benilde-St. Margaret's, we empower our students to achieve a brighter future for themselves, their community and the world.

In May 2012, the Benilde-St. Margaret's Board of Directors completed a comprehensive strategic planning process that involved board members, faculty, staff, parents and alumni over a period of several months. The board adopted BSM 2020, a plan that sets us on a mission-based trajectory toward one goal:

***By 2020, BSM will excel as a nationally recognized leader in 21st century, Catholic, college-preparatory education, preparing students to live their faith and thrive in a changing world.***

In the next several years, BSM will focus on four cornerstones that support our goal:

1. 21st Century Academic Excellence
2. Developing the Whole Student in a Catholic Community
3. Best Teaching and Innovative Instruction
4. Invest in BSM's Future

The following summary of our cornerstones of the BSM 2020 plan is part of what informs the work going forward.

### 21st Century Academic Excellence

BSM is a recognized leader in college preparatory education. We prepare students to make a difference in an ever-increasingly interconnected world. By 2020, our alumni will be challenged by complex problems in jobs that haven't yet been created. Through BSM 2020, we will:

- Prepare students for success by educating them in real-world ways that emphasize core knowledge, learning through experience, deeper discovery, and developing moral character through solving problems that matter;
- Create comprehensive academic experiences through interdisciplinary Centers of Excellence that provide opportunities for collaboration, research, and learning in specialized fields;
- Forge greater partnerships with distinguished alumni, parents, community leaders, sister schools, and local and international organizations to provide enriched perspectives and relevant real-world learning opportunities.

## **Developing the Whole Student in a Catholic Community**

BSM provides an environment that enables students to acquire the skills and habits needed for lives that are balanced ethically, spiritually and physically. As a Catholic school, we provide students with opportunities to learn, practice and live their faith. We acknowledge the importance of faith formation and physical and mental health as a prerequisite for becoming servant leaders. Through BSM 2020, we will:

- Ensure that students are prepared to live successful lives that are imbued with Gospel values and enriched by service to others;
- Guide students as they grow to understand the role of faith in their daily lives and in society;
- Encourage students to live healthier lives with an eye toward physical, emotional, and social well-being.

## **Best Teaching and Innovative Instruction**

BSM teachers are among the best in Minnesota. They are called to teaching as a vocation. They continually seek to enhance their profession and leverage their expertise by collaborating with colleagues within and across disciplines. Dedicated and high-quality teachers rank as the top reason parents choose any school, especially BSM. Through BSM 2020, we will:

- Create the BSM Center for Innovative Instruction that continually supports and cultivates best teaching and where teachers focus on professional development, innovation and collaboration;
- Leverage technology (e.g., laptop program, video, reversed/"flipped classroom," blended/online learning, real-time international collaboration) for learning;
- Help teachers to research, design, pilot, and refine real-world, applied learning experiences, strengthen best practices, discover "next practices;"
- Serve as a resource for teacher education to the broader Catholic- and area-school networks.

## **Invest in BSM's Future**

BSM attracts families who are seeking a superior Catholic, college preparatory education within a strong, supportive and caring community. As a Catholic school, we are committed to having a diverse student body and community, welcoming those who support our mission of Catholic education. Through BSM 2020, we will:

- Focus on affordability and accessibility and provide financial assistance to families who both demonstrate need and support BSM's mission;
- Cultivate a culture of philanthropy that provides alumni, donors, families, and faculty and staff with opportunities to support the BSM mission;
- Pursue new revenue resources to help fund new initiatives.