

Saint Francis International School



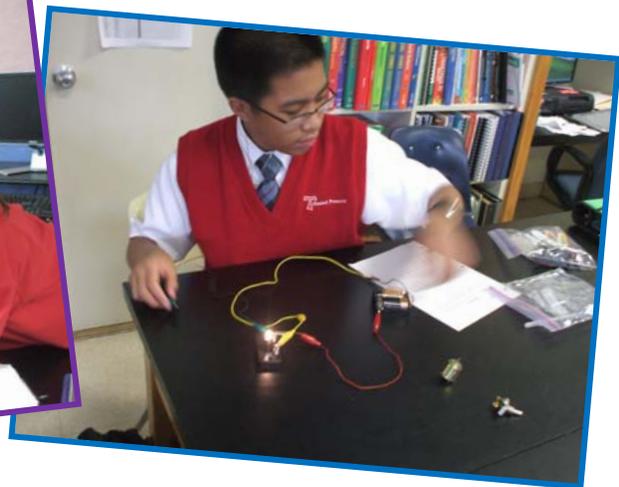
www.saintfrancisinternational.org

Academic Excellence

Saint Francis International School uses a 21st century curriculum built around the Archdiocese of Washington academic and catechetical standards that emphasizes:



- mastery of the fundamentals of language and mathematics
- reading and communication skills that prepare students for our modern world of both traditional and digital information sources
- critical thinking and higher level skills such as application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation
- hands-on and experiential learning that provides students with transferable skills which can be used for success in high school, college, and the workplace
- the flexibility to provide instruction that draws upon and develops each student's multiple intelligences
- the student body size and staffing levels necessary to provide appropriate group and differentiated instruction to meet students where they are and help them develop to their fullest potential



Saint Francis International School is *fully accredited* by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools



The early childhood program of Saint Francis International School is *licensed* by the Maryland State Department of Education

A Continuum of Learning



Learning in the 21st century is a lifelong process that begins earlier than ever before. Today, those who are successful are those that learn *how* to learn and then take on learning as a continual process. Saint Francis International School offers 12 years of integrated education that focuses on:

- acquisition of age-appropriate skills at three academic levels

Early Childhood (age 2 through kindergarten)

Primary Grades (grades 1-5)

Middle Grades (grades 6-8)

- a curriculum that builds over time and continually activates skills and information learned earlier
- integrated learning across subject areas through the use of authentic assessment and project-based learning
- a curriculum designed to help children become self-motivated, lifelong learners

Education beyond the Traditional School Day

Learning that is constrained by the school bell is not effective in the 21st century. Saint Francis International School offers more opportunities for learning through:



- a longer school day from 8:00 am to 3:15 pm plus an extended school program from 6:45 am to 6:30 pm
- wide variety of after-school enrichment classes, activities, clubs, music, drama, and sports within the safe environment of the school community



- summer programs that offers academics, leadership skills, sports, and fun allowing for a virtual year-round school experience



Preach the good news at all times
and if necessary use words.

St. Francis of Assisi

A Culture of Faith, Hope, and Love



The core of a Catholic education is ensuring that every student is aware of the loving God who has created this world and that every student is provided with the knowledge and experiences necessary to comprehend the hope that God provides. The goal also includes the desire for students to understand the role of men and women in bringing God's love into the world and transforming hope into reality. We accomplish this goal through:

- daily communal prayer and weekly celebration of the Eucharist
- preparation for and celebration of the sacraments including regular opportunities for the sacrament of Reconciliation
- the use of retreats and ministry opportunities



- an emphasis throughout the curriculum on right behavior and the consequences of human action and inaction
- daily religion classes that emphasize the experience of God in the world today, the wisdom of the Catholic faith, and the truths revealed in the Scriptures

Global Perspective

Our world is getting smaller every day and the students of the 21st century must be prepared to succeed in that world; our curriculum and school culture seeks to prepare students to be not only active citizens of the United States but global citizens who:



- have language skills in more than one major world language
- understand and can live with people of many cultural, linguistic, religious, and political backgrounds
- have a full understanding of world history, economics, civics, and society

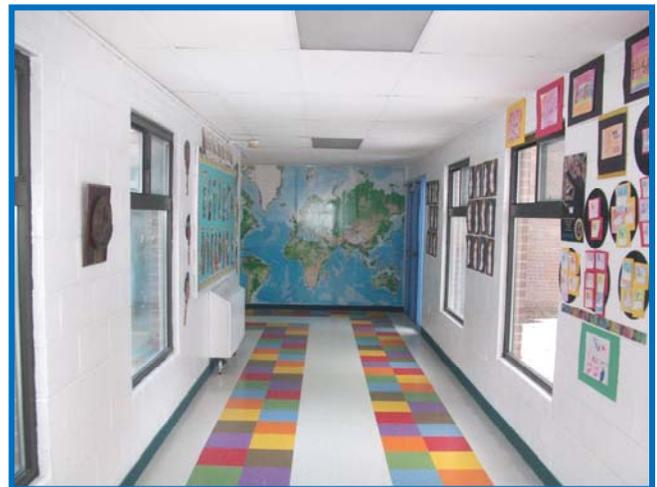
- can use technology to communicate effectively and to gather information to make good decisions in the modern world of rapid change
- have the skills necessary to participate in the political process
- are prepared to be leaders in their parish, local, and national communities



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ALL ARE WELCOME!

ሰላም • Chào Mừng • 환영 • Bienvenue



Support for Children and Families

Each child and each family is unique. Saint Francis International School offers a range of support services to meet these needs:

- a Student Assistance Team designed to identify student problems early and provide effective solutions
- support specialists able to provide individualized English language learning and resource instruction in the classroom, in small groups, and on a one-on-one basis
- a school counselor on staff to assist students, parents, and teachers in dealing with social, emotional, and educational concerns that arise
- a school nurse and health room available to help students, parents, and teachers ensure each child's physical wellbeing
- partnerships with Montgomery County Public Schools, Prince George's County Public Schools, the Commonwealth Foundation, Catholic University and others to provide additional resources for students
- a strong parent organization that provides additional opportunities for families to socialize and support one another in raising healthy, intelligent children



Attention to the Whole Child

An effective education is one that focuses on more than just providing students with information. An effective education acknowledges that children need to learn and grow in mind, body, and spirit. Saint Francis International School is committed to providing opportunities for students to develop social, physical, and emotional maturity through:

- both recreational and competitive Saint Francis Lions sports available at all age levels in addition to a strong physical education program including:



- soccer
- basketball
- track and field
- baseball
- softball
- dance



- availability of a wide variety of clubs, activities, and enrichment classes including:



- drama club and Lion-TV news
 - cooking and sewing clubs
 - martial arts, gymnastics, and dance classes plus ski trips
 - student council and school store
 - youth scouting
 - youth ministry service and social activities
- opportunities for music education and performance through weekly music classes plus optional band and choir classes with annual Christmas and spring concerts
 - integration of leadership skills throughout the curriculum
 - a curriculum and school culture that understands and respects child and adolescent psychological and emotional development



Affordability and Accessibility

Accomplishing these goals requires many resources; we are committed to maintaining our long tradition of providing Catholic education to as many children as possible through:

- the availability of grants for active Catholic parishioners and support for families with multiple children
- the availability of financial assistance from the school, the Archdiocese of Washington, and from other sources like the Latino Student Fund
- a strong sense of stewardship on the part of students, families, our parishes, and other stakeholders providing support through their time, talent, and treasure
- effective and efficient management of our operations and resources

Need Based Financial Aid

Need based financial aid is available from the school and archdiocese and will be awarded based criteria presented in the PSAS application. Notification of need based aid decisions takes place in late spring.

Other Sources of Financial Assistance

Families are *strongly* encouraged to apply for scholarships from the Latino Student Fund, and the Washington Scholarship Fund, for more information contact the school.

Families may be eligible for assistance for preschool tuition, extended care, and summer camp from the state of Maryland through the Department of Social Services in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. For more information contact the school or your local department of social services.



Main Campus
1500 St. Camillus Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20903

(301) 434-2344 PHONE

(301) 434-7726 FAX



Saint Francis International School is a regional school of the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington which is sponsored and supported by St. Camillus, St. Mark the Evangelist, and Our Lady of Vietnam Parishes.

Saint Francis International School (SFIS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age or gender in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid, or other school-administered programs. While SFIS does not discriminate against students with special needs a full range of services may not be available.