

LA LUMIERE SCHOOL

Character • Scholarship • Faith



# Position Statement Head of School Search La Lumiere School

La Porte, Indiana  
Start Date: July 1, 2024

**RG 175**  
Change as Opportunity

# La Lumiere School

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## OVERVIEW

Welcome to La Lumiere School. A wonderful boarding and Day school tucked in the northern region of Indiana. La Lumiere is a coeducational, Catholic boarding and day school that offers vigorous academics and myriad opportunities for growth and self-confidence, self-awareness, compassion, and ownership of a personal experience. Everything that La Lumiere does is founded on relationships. From the Lakeside dorms and close-knit classrooms to a community fireplace, the idyllic campus provides a setting like no other. The school's most reliable and powerful asset is a culture where buying in is just what they do.

La Lumiere's personalized instruction from superbly educated faculty, paired with a rich and diverse mosaic of students, provides opportunities to pursue personal discovery and academic excellence each and every day. There is no typical La Lumiere student. The school prides itself in recognizing the unique talents and passions that make every child very special. Top performers, conventional students, non-traditional learners, artist, athletes, and actors all call La Lumiere home.

La Lumiere actively cultivates the leadership qualities that exist within every student. While some students are initially more comfortable with leadership positions, every student has the capacity to lead. The La Lumiere setting is specifically designed to provide a multitude of leadership opportunities, and to encourage every student to discover the leader within.

One of the most exciting aspects of La Lumiere is its dynamic international student population. Students create a Learning community that is truly unique and one that encourages developing a global perspective. La Lumiere students quickly develop a broad understanding of the world and a deep appreciation for the different cultures that make up their community. The student body averages 35% students of color, 13 states represented and students come from over 20 different countries around the globe. One of the most important elements of La Lumiere is the presence of a vibrant, engaged and inclusive community. Parents and families are encouraged to become actively involved with every aspect of the schools communal fabric. From arts and athletics to school events and trips, the energized community is in many ways the soul of the school.



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La Lumiere School is steeped in both history and its own unique tradition. Since its inception, students have chosen the school to become part of a school that promotes personal success, while never losing sight of the importance of the community. From senior retreat, parents weekend, the taste of La Lumiere, and the Head's Cup, the school embraces and celebrates the traditions that connect generations of La Lumiere graduates.

The founders of La Lumiere believe that education in faith should walk hand-in-hand to engender character and strong academic performance. La Lumiere School believes that what distinguishes one person from another is strength of character, inquisitive, nature, tolerance, sympathy, and leadership qualities.

La Lumiere School was founded by a group of Chicago and Indiana businessmen in 1963 as an independent Catholic boarding school for boys in grades 9–12. Throughout the years, the school has evolved, adding new buildings and facilities, admitting girls in 1978, and adding innovative curriculum on an annual basis. La Lumiere remains true, however, to its mission and practice in spirit each day of the academic year.

## MISSION

At La Lumiere School, we form character, cultivate scholarship, and explore faith in order to grow into more complete versions of ourselves.



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### ELEMENTS OF A LA LUMIERE EDUCATION

**Character:** We believe the character is best formed in a community founded on authentic relationships and trust. The school structures experiences that encourage students to develop grit and self-discipline, to take ownership of their lives, and the empathy, integrity, and courage to advocate for others. Through both success and failure, the school teaches students to act ethically and prudently with an orientation toward the common good.

**Scholarship:** As a community of leaders, the school, engages in civil discourse, listening, and works to be responsibly informed, and encounter the world with genuine interest. The school's faculty guide students as they hold their academic skills and habits of mind, and they have high expectations for how all students will grow and learn. Meaningful learning takes place when the dynamic between the teacher and student is close knit, and

personal connections foster a process which engages students experiences and interest to draw forth their best efforts. Beyond content mastery, La Lumiere students develop a sense of wonder and an appetite for lifelong learning.

**Faith:** Earnest exploration of faith is an integral part of a La Lumiere Education. The school strives to practice, and live out their own faith lives, even as we explore other beliefs. No matter what their religion, each member of the school community belongs together, they seek spiritual understanding through an appreciation of the beauty of the natural world, a commitment to justice and service, and the pursuit of an active and authentic spiritual life, centered on reflection, self-awareness, and hope. The Catholic faith serves as the bedrock of this pursuit and its vision of the dignity of a human person, gives us faith in one another in forming what we value and how we act.

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## LOCATION

La Lumiere School is located in La Porte, Indiana. The school is just 10 minutes from Lake Michigan, 45 minutes from South Bend, Indiana, and just 90 miles from Chicago. The campus is an idyllic 190-acre wooded campus with ponds, trails and wonderful woodlands.

## THE PROGRAM

La Lumiere School takes pride having experienced faculty who while having degrees in their respective disciplines, combine subject, mastery, and state-of-the-art instructional methods to create uniquely challenging, academic environments. The program is run by faculty and administrators, where no student is a faceless name or number. All faculty, administration and staff know the students as well as their parents and they work hard to maintain and build upon those relationships. Availability is the essence of a faculty members experience at La Lumiere.

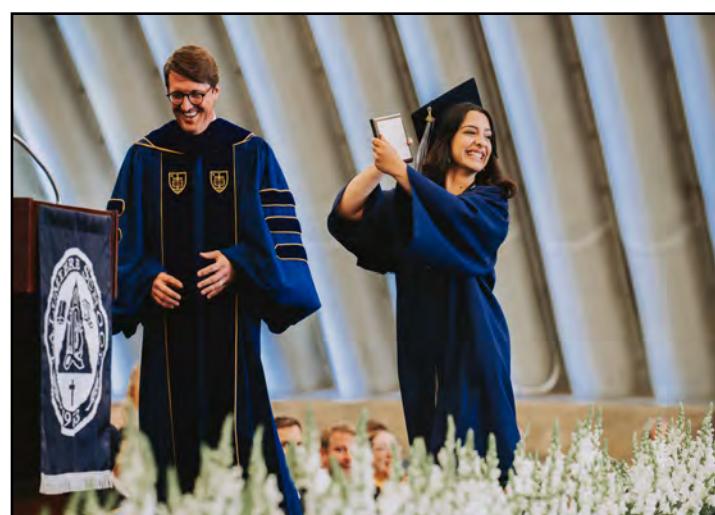
La Lumiere believes in educating the whole student and a central component of the goal is the inclusion of a rich offering of academic and co-curricular activities.



The academic program has an average class size of 10 students and a student to teacher ratio of 7:1. The program is college preparatory with a focus on having the students graduate, be admitted to, and attend colleges and universities while graduating with great success. Specific program information and academic information can be found on the school's website.

La Lumiere provides an extensive list of clubs and activities, the arts, academic teams, and significant community service opportunities. Athletics are offered in several sports for both boys and girls, and students can include both competition and also non-competitive offerings that promote lifelong physical fitness. La Lumiere is renowned for its boy's basketball program that plays on a national level and is recognized throughout the country for its excellence.

The college advising office works with each student to find colleges and universities where students will feel challenged, happy, and successful. The school works diligently to find the best matches for each student and the goal is to do this with as little stress and pressure on the student as possible. A sampling of colleges and universities where graduates attend is located on the schools website. (<https://www.lalumiere.org/>)



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### STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL

- Community
- Student Culture
- Relationships in multiple ways
- Character Development
- Campus and location
- Family Environment
- Engaging Academics
- Creating Thinkers and Problem Solvers
- A Community of Belonging
- Use of The Outdoors
- Traditions
- Faculty
- Small Classes
- Writing Program
- The Prefect System



### CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The next head of school for La Lumiere should be a dedicated educator, familiar with and a supporter of the strong values and culture that shape the school. The school will need to be lead wisely and confidently into the future by embracing the school's current challenges and opportunities to take the school to the next level. There will be opportunities for the next head of school to:

- Establish stability and leadership and further the strength of the community. This is especially important following three years of interim heads of school. La Lumiere seeks a leader who desires a long-term commitment to the school.
- Possess the financial acumen to manage a tight budget for a vibrant school program. This will entail working closely with an excellent finance committee of the Board of Trustees. Ensuring and strengthening financial stability will be

important to ensure long-term financial sustainability for the school.

- Administrative experience is a must as the school needs to clean up multiple processes and procedures, and identify very clear rules throughout the entire school.
- Lead the school in the development, communication and execution of visionary strategy, all in collaboration and engagement with the school's stakeholders.
- Provide clarity in all administrative roles throughout the school.
- Together with administrative leaders and the Board, the next head will have the opportunity to optimize enrollment and determine the right size for the school. A renewed, marketing/public relations strategy should flow from and with those deliberations with a goal of articulating and marketing what makes La Lumiere so special.
- Identify priorities and develop a plan, which includes fundraising to update some of the school's facilities.

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### KEY QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate as the next head for La Lumiere will have the required skills to be the school's chief executive officer, responsible for implementing the vision, and strategic objectives of the school. All candidates should have significant educational leadership experience with a track record of success.

- Leading with warmth, strength, compassion, and "a backbone."
- Holding and maintaining a significantly strong, ethical mindset.
- Being present, and fully engaged throughout the entire life of the school.
- Personal integrity, high emotional intelligence and inspirational spirit, along with warmth, energy, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor.
- Providing strong and clear communication for all the various constituencies.

- A superb relationship builder, a visible positive leader who engenders trust and confidence, inspires, aligns stakeholders, and serves as a bridge builder.
- Financial acumen, fundraising experience, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a record of enrollment management experience.
- Be a lively and engaged presence in the life of the school. This includes being highly visible in the hallways, classrooms, and playing fields of the school. Connecting with all students, faculty and staff, and alumni scattered across the region and country, and parents eager to engage in the vibrant community of La Lumiere. This quality of leadership is especially vital moving forward as the community yearns for connectedness across all constituents.
- A strong manager who can hold people accountable and create structures and systems to promote effective communication in organizational alignment.
- An active listener with a collaborative nature.



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## APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested candidates may apply online on the RG175 website:

<https://rg175.com/candidate/signup>

To be considered for this exciting leadership opportunity, candidates must submit a cover letter detailing their interest in the school, a résumé, and a personal statement. In addition, candidates must list at least five references with contact information.

Application deadline: **October 1, 2023**

For further information, please contact RG175 consultant John S Farber: [jfarber@rg175.com](mailto:jfarber@rg175.com)