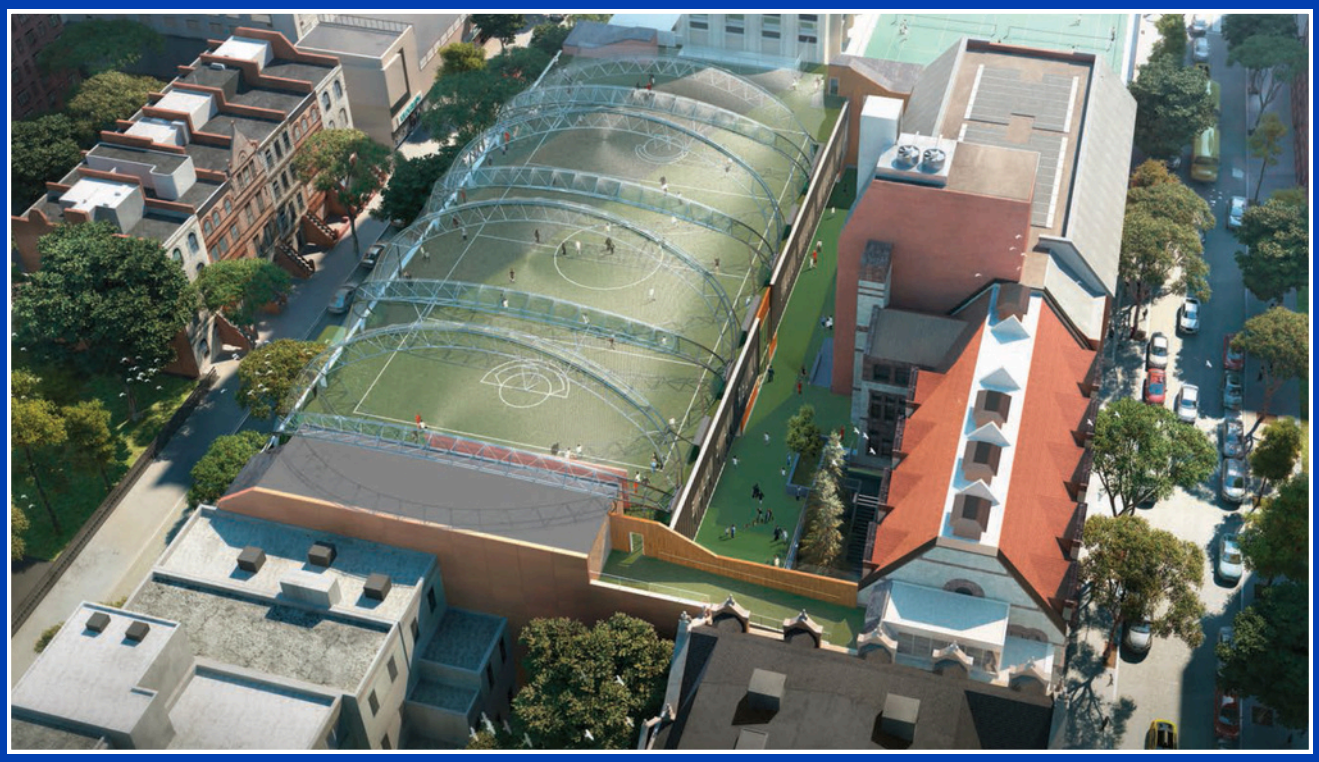
POSITION STATEMENT

Trinity School

NEW YORK, NEW YORK



HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL SEARCH
START DATE: JULY 1, 2026

Trinity School

RG 175
Change as Opportunity

TRINITY SCHOOL, in the words of its current Head, is "a joyfully nerdy place." Nowhere is this more evident than in the Middle School (Grades 5-8) where satisfaction is high and enthusiasm abounds. Thanks to the 9-year tenure of the current Middle School Principal, that division rivals Disneyland as the happiest place on earth. The reasons are clear—a faculty who love that age group; a leader who both listens and inspires; and students who love learning. As one parent recently put it, "I have watched the Middle School faculty pour learning into my child."

Founded in 1709, Trinity has long been known for its scholastic excellence predicated on intellectual inquiry and self-expression, fueled by mutual respect, broad diversity, and shared community values. Stretching nearly the entire length of West 91st Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, the historic and beautiful campus is home to approximately 1050 students, with the Middle School's 260 enrollment making it the smallest of the three divisions.

The Middle School Principal reports directly to the Head of School, a dynamic leader and forward -looking leader. The job of the Principal is to preserve and re-emphasize the eight interlocking loci of Trinity's Mission: to deepen the conversation between student and teacher; to challenge the minds and fire the imagination of students; to attend to their moral development and spirituality; and to ensure student safety, diversity, service, citizenship and community. Trinity is a thoroughly dynamic, forward-looking institution, and this position is charged with potential and promise, as the Middle School Principal works hand-in-hand with the thoughtful leaders of the other two divisions and as a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

As appropriate for the age group, social-emotional learning is at the core of the Middle School program. While the Principal sets the tone for the division, there is a team in place to support that tone-setting: each grade has a dean who is also a full-time teacher, backed up by an advisory system that involves most of the MS

faculty, and supported by learning specialists and counselors. The hidden curriculum of SEL is buttressed by weekly Chapel services, Public Service that takes students into the community around the school, and a variety of non-academic pursuits that range from chess to the annual 5th/6th grade musical (with 90% of the students participating) to a multiplicity of clubs and teams (interscholastic sports begin in Grade 7).
The academic program in the Middle School is age-appropriate but definitely geared toward eager learners. History and English courses offer a strong dose of reading and writing ("We are a reading school," notes a faculty member, and the Middle School has its own, separate library); Math offers an Honors track beginning in Grade 7, with algebra for all in Grade 8, while all students take Latin in Grades 7 and 8. Science is no after-thought as it is skill-based and developmental in nature as students prepare for more advanced study in the Upper School.

While the faculty are dedicated to the Middle School, interestingly, nearly all the academic department chairs are Upper School faculty (Science, the Arts and Athletics are exceptions, as they have K—12 leaders). It's hard to gauge the impact on the Middle School of leadership that's not part of the division, but there does seem to be a perceived need to hone the curriculum and pedagogy through a program review and a renewed emphasis on professional development. The quality of teaching in the Middle School is uniformly high, but there are discrepancies in the expectations of some faculty that can create disparities in learning outcomes for students that make adjustment difficult for teachers at the next level (e.g., different reading and writing assignments depending on who the teacher is).

Seeing to this honing of the academic program will be one of the challenges facing the next Principal. Another will be simply following the incumbent, who is uniformly loved, trusted, admired, and revered by parents, teachers, students, and colleagues throughout the school. Jason Ford has been wonderfully attuned to the age group; a good listener, a clear and unambiguous speaker, a wise counselor, and a Pied Piper who inherited the least happy division at Trinity and transformed it into the joyous place that it is today.

More specifically, the next Middle School Principal must:

- Love the age group, love Middle School, and love Trinity
- Have a high E.Q.
- Have strong administrative skills
- Know Middle School curriculum and pedagogy
- Be experienced as a teacher of Middle School students
- Have experience with faculty professional development and evaluation
- Demonstrate leadership through collaboration
- Understand the rhythms and dynamics of a high-functioning, highly academic school
- Know how to interpret the age group to parents
- Share the school's commitment to inclusion and belonging

As for next Principal's personal qualities, Trinity Middle School needs a leader who is:

- Imaginative
- Inquisitive
- Playful
- A team player
- A hard worker
- Strong—sturdy backbone required!
- A listener
- Highly Relational
- An advocate for the Middle School

TO APPLY

The deadline for applications is **January 20, 2026**.

Please apply through the RG175 website portal: **https://rg175.com/login**

All applications must include a:

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Writing sample.

Interviews will be offered only to those who apply. Don't be a buzzer-beater if you're interested in this position; we would like to hear from you early in the process.

The range of prospective compensation for this position is $ 250,000 to $300,000.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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and

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