



STELLA MARIS ACADEMY



**A Guide for Prospective
Sentinel Families**

LEAD + LOVE + SERVE



Our Mission

Commissioned by the Catholic Church, Stella Maris Academy prepares lifelong learners who **lead, love, and serve** as Jesus taught -

transforming our world one student at a time!

Our Approach to Learning

Stella Maris Academy's curriculum is a Liberal Arts model of education rooted in the sacramental and intellectual traditions of the Catholic faith.

Our Catholic Liberal Arts curriculum provides teachers, parents and students with the tools to navigate the modern world with a defined order that celebrates the truth, goodness, and beauty of our faith.

This approach respects and honors the wisdom of great thinkers of the past, the saints, and the fruits of the Holy Spirit in a continuum of experiences and content.

The curriculum unifies faith and reason, forming students who discern their unique, God-given plan (vocation) as the best version of themselves: confident, intelligent, free, fully alive, faithful young adults.

From the President

Welcome to Stella Maris Academy!

Thank you for making our school part of your discernment as to where the best fit for your child's formative years are spent. Whether you are coming to Stella Maris Academy with a youngster in pre-kindergarten, a middle schooler, or a young adult in high school, I can assure you that Stella Maris Academy is a place where faith, community, service, and academics come together to make our program the most excellent option in our community for students to grow and families to connect.

As you learn more about Stella Maris Academy, you will see and hear the phrase, 'Lead, Love, and Serve' often. This is the foundation of our mission and how we strive to form our students. Ultimately, if grounded in Christ and striving to lead, love, and serve like Jesus did, we know that our community and world will be transformed in ways that we can only imagine!

We take pride in our mission, strong academics, exceptional teachers and staff, and the community that has developed within our academy. The collaborative and positive relationship between school and home is integral in our success and your child's success. As you continue to immerse into what Stella Maris Academy offers, know that we are here to help support your discernment and look forward to working with your family!

God Bless,



Andrew Hilliker,
Stella Maris Academy President



PILLARS OF



HUMAN FORMATION

Enables the student to embrace who they are as a person, made in God's image. Solid moral character develops as they learn to understand the innate dignity of the human person.

Honoring Self

Honoring Others

Positive Social Relationships

Growing in Holiness

Sharing Gifts and Charisms

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Enables the student to grow in faith and discover who they are as part of the church, the Body of Christ. As they listen and learn as a disciple of Christ, they grow in union with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Celebrating Mass

Reverently Praying

Participation in Retreats

Receiving the Sacraments

Circle of Grace and Theology Courses



EDUCATION



STEWARDSHIP FORMATION

Enables the student to serve the body of Christ. It is Christian stewardship that comes forth from the integration of the other three pillars - human, intellectual, and Spiritual. The desire to love and serve one's neighbor grows as students actively give of themselves through service projects, volunteer work, and prayer.

Structured Service Projects

Peer Mentoring

Campus Leadership Opportunities

Parish Involvement

INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

Enables the student to gain wisdom through understanding: *credo ut intelligum* (I believe in order to know). Cultivation of intellectual curiosity and critical thinking fosters disciplined study habits that will serve them well into adulthood.

Rigorous Academics

Emphasis on Literacy

Application of Learning

Meaningful Assessment

Supportive and Driven Teachers





Sentinel Activities

Stella Maris Academy views participation in extracurricular activities as one of the ways students can use the gifts God has given them and give glory back to Him in all things. Participation in sports, fine arts, and other activities are an expression of the fullness of our creator.

These activities are geared foremost toward the development of our students as entire individuals. Extra curricular activities aim to develop the virtues of charity, justice, prudence, fortitude, self-control, integrity, kindness, humility, and magnanimity in all participants.

Stella Maris Academy also sees value in healthy and fair competition, and promotes the pursuit of excellence in athletics, fine arts, and other activities as it promotes excellence in all areas.



STELLA MARIS ACADEMY
SENTINELS

www.stellamaris.academy/activities



Sentinel Summer Program

The Sentinel Summer Program is a faith-filled, weekly-themed camp for children who are enrolled in Pre-K - 5 for the fall of the upcoming school year. Summer at Stella Maris Academy is immersion in active learning, field trips, and exploring intriguing topics that will make kids want to dig deeper. Children will attend Mass, have theme-specific activities and field trips, take part in service opportunities, and enjoy an enriching summer experience.

Registration opens for the Sentinel Summer Program each February with flexible options to meet varying family summer care and enrichment needs.

www.stellamaris.academy/summerprogram

Extended School Day

Stella Maris Academy offers before and after school care for families whose schedule does not allow for traditional school day drop off and pick up time at our elementary campuses. Before school care begins at 6:30am and after school care ends at 5:30pm. Fees apply for this additional school day service.

Registration occurs as part of the enrollment process.



Uniforms

The school uniform reflects the spirit of Stella Maris Academy by fostering an environment that supports the pursuit of academic excellence and the spiritual, moral, and social growth of the students. The school uniform serves to unify the student body, and is an outward expression of the mission of Stella Maris Academy. For more information go to stellamaris.academy/uniforms



Family Association

Community is integral to our mission. The SMA Family Association plays an important role in bringing families together, building community, supporting volunteer needs and so much more. Being part of Stella Maris Academy is an extension of family and the Family Association is excited to welcome your family to our school!

The Family Association meets monthly to determine needs and plan how to best support our school community. As a new family to Stella Maris Academy, you will be invited to the Family Association from your campus lead regarding activities and meetings.



Transportation

Families residing in the Duluth School district are eligible for transportation to and from school at no cost. Stella Maris Academy will work with families who reside outside of the Duluth School District who need transportation through some alternative transportation options.

Lunch

Each Stella Maris Academy Campus has a lunch program that is part of the Federal Lunch Program. This means that school lunch is available to all students and for those families who qualify, lunches may be provided at reduced or no cost. Families are encouraged to complete the annual Federal Lunch Program Assistance Application that is provided at the beginning of each school year.

Tuition

A Stella Maris Academy education is a reflection of the investment in the future of each child through the sacrifice of each family, the generosity of our donors and the ardent commitment we make in partnering with you. We are proud that our tuition remains among the lowest in Duluth— a tuition rate that is purposely set below the actual cost of a Stella Maris education. Every student at Stella Maris Academy is the beneficiary of tuition support through the contributions of our local parishes and supportive stakeholders who believe in our mission and approach to formation.

Tuition Assistance

Tuition at Stella Maris Academy is subsidized for all families as our academy has the support of local parishes and stakeholders who give to our tuition assistance program. Full tuition at Stella Maris Academy is approximately 50% of the actual cost to educate a child. As a mission of the Catholic Church, we are committed to ensuring all families who desire a Catholic education have access to Stella Maris Academy.

Families who need tuition assistance are encouraged to complete a tuition assistance application; awards are based on individual family circumstances.



For more information on tuition and assistance, scan this QR code.

IN THE KNOW

Becoming a Sentinel



1

Submit an Inquiry

Complete an online inquiry form to initiate the process of enrollment. This inquiry will invite a deeper conversation into what formation looks like at Stella Maris Academy and a glimpse into our community.

2

Apply Online

Complete an application form for each child applying for enrollment at Stella Maris Academy. A non-refundable \$50 application fee for each *new* student will be applied upon submission.

3

Schedule a Shadow Day

After your application is received, students in grades 1–7 can experience the Stella Maris difference firsthand. Welcomed by exceptional students and teachers, your student can participate in a full or partial school day to see what being a Sentinel is like.

sma.admissions@stellamaris.academy | 218 - 623- 6253 | www.stellamaris.academy/admissions



St. James Campus
Grades: Pre-K - 6



Holy Rosary Campus
Grades: Pre-K - 3



St. John's Campus
Grades: 4 - 6



SMA Junior/Senior High School
Grades: 7 - 12



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SMA admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.