

Good Samaritan Education

IN ALL THINGS MAY GOD BE GLORIFIED



Call to Governance

Discerning the role of Board Director in a school of Good Samaritan Education

Catholic education in the Good Samaritan Benedictine tradition is committed to developing students who will engage with today's world as grounded, hope-filled young people who are equipped to lead wisely, to listen deeply and to treat their neighbour and their environment with justice, love and the compassion of Christ. *(GSE Philosophy of Education 2019)*

Good Samaritan Education (GSE) is inviting you to share in the privilege and responsibility of ensuring that a school retains its Good Samaritan Benedictine mission of providing the best possible educational opportunities for students within a faith community. The role of Board Director in a school of Good Samaritan Education offers you the opportunity to work in partnership in the ministry of education within the mission of the Church.

Enriched and inspired by the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the Rule of Benedict and the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, the mission of Good Samaritan Education is to sustain and nurture communities of learning in the Catholic tradition.



Spirituality

Animated by personal and communal prayer

When you accept the invitation to be a Board Director at a school of Good Samaritan Education you undertake to participate in formation experiences that lead to growth, both personally and within a community. Formation will enable, affirm and guide you in your role and assist you to exercise your ministry within the school community you will be part of.

Formation is a personal and communal journey and is the responsibility of all. It will involve the deepening of your appreciation of Catholic education within the Good Samaritan Benedictine tradition while strengthening understanding of your governance responsibilities within the structure of Good Samaritan Education and in the secular world.

Catholic Thought and Context

Familiarity with, and appreciation for a Catholic world view

Good Samaritan Education desires its schools to be conducted as authentic expressions of Catholic education. As a significant leader in the school community, you are called to model attitudes and behaviours that are consistent with the values and ethos of the Catholic tradition.

A Catholic World View is imbued with a sense of “sacramentality”. That means that we become aware of the Divine through the sacredness of creation, in the daily lives of ourselves and others, and in the relationships we share. As humans, this sense of the Divine in everyday experience forms and empowers us as we undertake life’s journey.

Some key elements of this view include:

- belief in the fundamental dignity and equality of all human beings, and a commitment to community, the common good, kindness and fairness
- concern for the rights and responsibilities of each person, social justice, and the dignity of work
- commitment to the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalised
- prioritising care of all of creation and service to others
- belief that our call is to be co-creators in making the world a better place
- acceptance of the limitations of ourselves and others as we strive for what is good
- a reflective sense of spirituality that enables us to listen with the ear of our heart and appreciate that the most important things in life are not wealth and possessions.

Catholic Schools "are places where people learn how to live their lives, achieve cultural growth, receive vocational training and engage in the pursuit of the common good; they provide occasion and opportunity to understand the present time and imagine the future of society ... At the root of Catholic education is our Christian spiritual heritage, which is part of a constant dialogue with the cultural heritage and the conquests of science; Catholic schools ... are educational communities where learning thrives on the integration between research, thinking and life experience."

-Educating Today and Tomorrow: A Renewing Passion (Instrumentum laboris), 2014, p5

Leadership and Governance

Competency in leadership and governance roles

As a Board Director of an incorporated company, you will need to give serious attention to board responsibilities. You will need to be willing and able to:

- give adequate time in preparation for board meetings
- engage in formation and prayer
- gain educational and financial literacy appropriate to the role
- become familiar with core governance documents
- engage with issues affecting Catholic education
- grow in understanding of and commitment to the Good Samaritan Benedictine ethos
- participate in decision-making through processes of discernment
- maintain appropriate confidentiality

Do this and you will live!

Luke 10:28b

The Parable of the Good Samaritan has shaped the life and mission of our schools from the beginning. It encourages us in our commitment to a sense of neighbour, community, inclusion and integration.

"By his actions, the Good Samaritan showed that 'the existence of each and every individual is deeply tied to that of others: life is not simply time that passes; life is a time for interactions'." *(Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 66)*

In our work together as a board "we have the space we need for co-responsibility in creating and putting into place new processes and changes... For our part, let us foster what is good and place ourselves at its service."

(Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 77)





If you are appointed you will:

- Need to complete governance training in order to meet legislative requirements
- Participate in ongoing formation, commencing with induction facilitated by Good Samaritan Education
- Attend board meetings and participate in committee work
- Be a presence at school functions and significant occasions

Next Steps:

Complete an Expression of Interest Form and submit with your curriculum vitae to the Executive Director of Good Samaritan Education.

Your Expression of Interest will be forwarded to the Board Chair and Company Members of the relevant school(s).

When a vacancy becomes available your Expression of Interest will be considered. You may be asked to attend an interview and undergo appropriate eligibility and suitability checks.

In the meantime, you may be invited to membership of a Board Committee.

For any other enquiries email admin@goodsameducation.org.au

www.goodsameducation.org.au

Everything should be arranged so that the strong have something to yearn for and the weak have nothing to run from. RB 64,19.