

CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

Report to the 2025
Convention of the
Diocese of Virginia

October 2025





CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

Created by the Council of the Diocese of Virginia in 1919 and incorporated in 1920 to “own and operate a system of schools,” Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia (CSDV) operated in the 2024-2025 academic year as six separately accredited educational institutions: Christchurch, Stuart Hall, St. Catherine’s, St. Christopher’s, St. Margaret’s, and St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes.

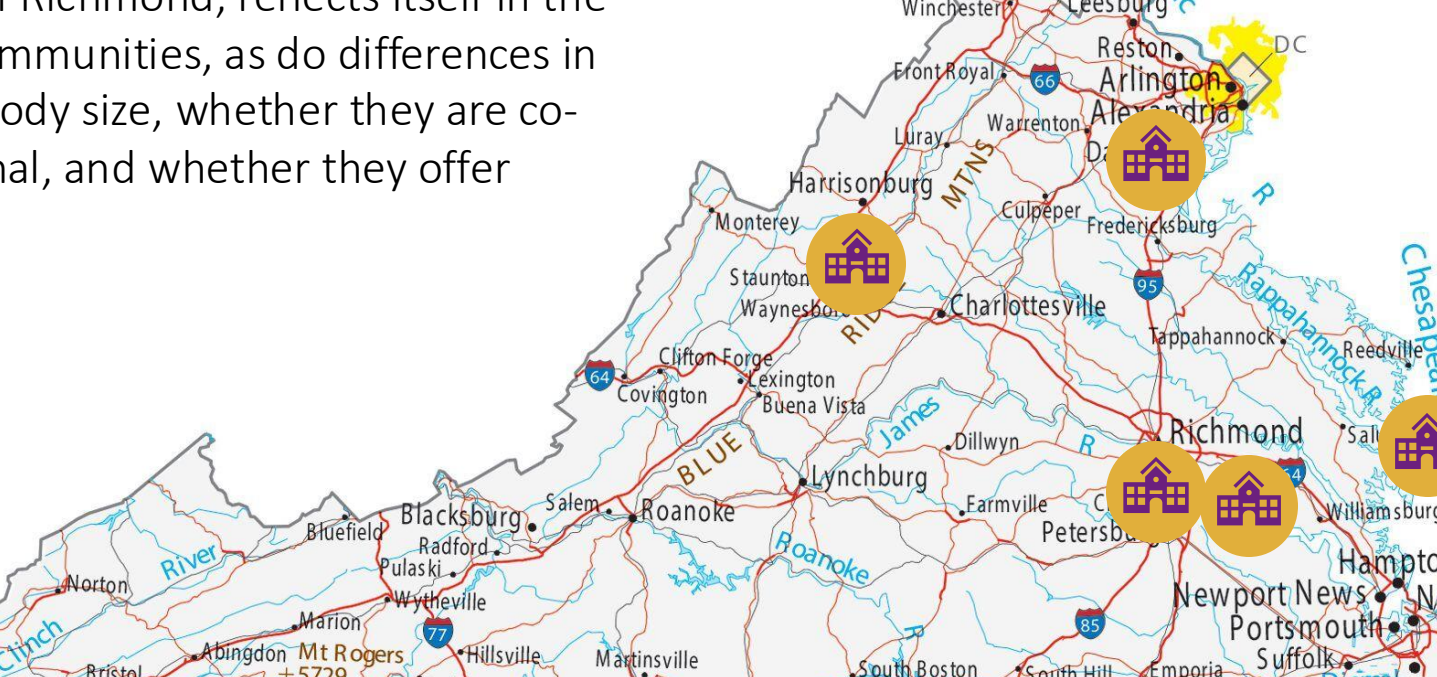
Three full-time officers work across the entire system. President Henry Broaddus, Vice President and Treasurer Chip Broadway, and Corporate Secretary and Assistant Treasurer Lea McCormick constitute this executive team, and they work closely with the system’s Board of Trustees, the Heads of School, their leadership teams, and the schools’ Boards of Governors.



Chip Broadway (left), Lea McCormick (center), and Henry Broaddus (right) at Roslyn Retreat Center, 9/19/2024



River, and from the city of Alexandria to the city of Richmond, reflects itself in the school communities, as do differences in student body size, whether they are co-educational, and whether they offer boarding.



GSDH 2024-2025 R... R...



CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

CSDV's structure facilitates mutually beneficial relationships and opportunities for collaboration among school leaders.

The Heads of School have access to peers at other schools. The business officers from the schools compare notes regularly and work through CSDV as a single entity for insurance, audit services, legal counsel, employee retirement plans and health benefits. The CSDV chaplains connect several times per year to share reflections and insights.

All of the schools strive to create supportive, diverse, and inclusive communities that, in the words of the baptismal covenant, “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.”



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Growth and strong demand characterized much of the CSDV system for the 2024-2025 academic year, especially in the lower schools of the three day schools. Meanwhile, Stuart Hall increased its number of boarding students for a fourth consecutive year, and Christchurch had its first graduating class ever with as many girls as boys.

However, a lack of significant growth and strong demand at St. Margaret's, reflecting a national trend for all-girls boarding schools, led the CSDV Board of Trustees to decide in early July — after thorough deliberation and with great sadness — not to reopen the school for the 2025-2026 school year.

This decision followed a notification of risk to parents and employees in early June, and it came after more than a decade of declines in student enrollment and tuition revenue. Signed enrollment contracts by the time of the decision would have accounted for only 19% of the school's operating budget.



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Despite heroic support by St. Margaret's alumnae and donors, the Trustees saw no viable path for the school to return to financial sustainability.

For 104 years, St. Margaret's educated girls who left Tappahannock prepared to make a positive contribution to the world. To quote from *A Brief History of St. Margaret's School*, which observed its 90th anniversary, "At its center, St. Margaret's is and has always been ... about empowering the girls to discover the women they will become, teaching them that they can achieve their highest potential and, in doing so, enrich the lives of others, giving them the moral and spiritual foundation that will allow them to grow in grace."



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Even in the midst of shared sadness and a profound sense of loss, nothing diminishes the distinguished heritage of St.

Margaret's. Its legacy endures in those whose lives have been touched by the school, and the spirit of St. Margaret's will live on forever.

Many of the girls at St. Margaret's for the 2024-2025 year chose to continue their education at another CSDV boarding school, including six students who enrolled at Stuart Hall School this fall and sixteen who enrolled at Christchurch. The chaplain from St. Margaret's and its longest-serving faculty member, a Latin teacher, are working this year at Christchurch School, which is able to offer Latin classes for the first time in many years. All of the students in upper-level Latin are transfers from St. Margaret's.



St. Margaret's School

Tappahannock, Virginia

All-Girls Boarding & Day School

Grades 8-12 and postgraduate

2024-2025 Enrollment: 70



2024-2025 Highlights:

- First all-school Rappahannock River mile swim
- Undefeated regular season in novice rowing and sculling
- State championship for VISAA Division III in girls' basketball — the school's first title banner in the sport
- Alumnae Weekend ceremony honoring Louise Velletri, ViAnne Farmer and Shannon Spears, former teachers who served St. Margaret's for more than 100 years collectively
- Graduation of 17 girls in the Class of 2025



Christchurch School

Christchurch, Virginia

Coed Boarding and Day School

Grades 9-12

2024-2025 Enrollment: 238





2024-2025 Highlights:

- Largest number of female graduates in school history; first graduating class to have an equal number of girls and boys
- More than 700 college credits earned by 83 students, who took 175 dual-enrollment courses
- State championship for VISAA Division II in boys' soccer
- Captured sailing championships in Virginia, Mid-Atlantic and Atlantic Coast competitions; top-five finishes in two National Sailing Championships
- Record-setting annual giving at \$1.2 million, with a 22% increase in number of donors



A photograph of the exterior of St. Catherine's School. The building is a two-story red brick structure with a central entrance featuring a white portico and a dark double door. A wide, paved brick walkway leads from the foreground to the entrance, flanked by green hedges and manicured lawns. On either side of the walkway, there are brick pillars topped with yellow bows and white flowers, marking the entrance to the school grounds. Large trees with green foliage are visible in the background, casting shadows on the building and the walkway.

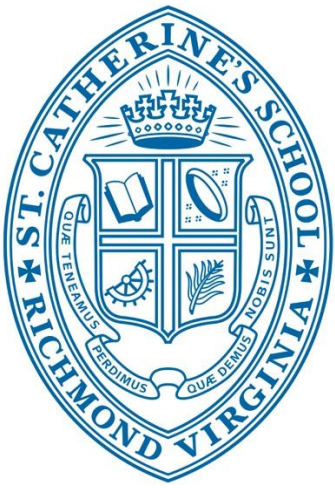
St. Catherine's School

Richmond, Virginia

All-Girls Day School

Age 3 - Grade 12

2024-2025 Enrollment: 945



2024-2025 Highlights:

- New strategic plan, "Foundation & Future," launched in the fall of 2024
- Rotating schedule and a no-cell-phone policy took effect in the Upper School, enhancing balance, health, wellness and community
- Record-breaking year for philanthropy: Recorded the largest planned gift intention (\$5M+) in school history; nearly \$600,000 raised during annual "Give Day"
- State championships in golf, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field; state runner-up in softball; 4 league championships



A group of students in various jackets and casual wear are walking along a brick-paved path that leads towards a white building with a blue roof. The scene is set in a lush, wooded area with trees displaying vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The ground is covered with fallen leaves, and the overall atmosphere is bright and sunny.

St. Christopher's School

Richmond, Virginia

All-Boys Day School

Grades JK-12

2024-2025 Enrollment: 1,018



2024-2025 Highlights:

- Successfully completed an admission cycle resulting in the largest and most racially diverse student body in school history for 2025-2026 – 1,039 students, 18.4% students of color
- Record-breaking year of philanthropy, with \$17.8 million raised in cash and pledges
- Tenth-anniversary celebration of The Center for the Study of Boys, marked with special speakers and parent programming
- Facilities enhancements including a new track, a new baseball press box and the renovation of the Upper School library
- Recipient of the Virginia Prep League Director's Cup, representing all-around athletic excellence, for a record ninth consecutive year



St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School



Alexandria, Virginia

Coed Day School

Age 3 - Grade 12

2024-2025 Enrollment: 1,219



2024-2025 Highlights:

- Celebration of centennial year with events on- and off-campus
- Opening of the renovated and expanded Upper School building, which features new classrooms, studios, a student commons and a dining hall
- Workshops to educate students and teachers about artificial intelligence tools and to provide students with personalized guidance
- Robust strategic planning process, including focus-group conversations and surveys
- Launch of campus master planning process to evaluate facilities and to imagine how physical spaces can better support mission, student experience and programmatic goals



Stuart Hall School

Staunton, Virginia

Coed Boarding & Day Grades 8 -12

Grades 6-7 Day Only

2024-2025 Enrollment: 135





2024-2025 Highlights:

- Fourth consecutive year of growth in boarding enrollment
- State championship for VISAA Division IV boys' basketball
- Restarting of varsity-level teams for boys soccer and girls volleyball
- Launch of a self-study on the school's Episcopal identity, added a lay chaplain, and reintroduced a religious studies course
- Implementation of a new, individualized professional development program for faculty
- Addition of a full-time Director of Human Resources to support faculty and staff





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are unified by their Episcopal identity, layered in their governance structure, and strengthened by their ties to one another.

In the 2024-2025 academic year, the six Church Schools served more than 3,500 students to prepare them for academic success, personal growth and well-being, and service to others.