



**Diocese of Providence  
Catholic School Office**

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## **PREFACE**

*Catholic education, which includes instruction, formation and transformation, exists in order to evangelize. Two important elements that make up the process of evangelization are proclamation and witness. Those who serve in a position of Catholic school leadership proclaim Jesus Christ, model his life and ministry, and bear witnesses to the Gospel in their professional and public life. As the spiritual leader of a Catholic school, principals must believe in God, support belief in Jesus Christ, pray publicly, respect ecclesiastical authority, and possess an essential knowledge of the Catholic Church and the Catholic Faith. All principals who serve in Catholic education must live a life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church, be active members of their parish churches and not take a public position contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.*

## **PRINCIPAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- 1) A practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church.
- 2) Possess a commitment to the development of a Catholic community of faith and virtue within a school.
- 3) Hold a well-developed philosophy of education and an understanding of an authentic Catholic education.
- 4) Hold a Master's degree, preferably in Educational Administration.
- 5) Have a minimum of five years of teaching experience in Catholic schools. Such experience should be sufficiently broad to provide educational leadership in an elementary or secondary school.
- 6) Have successfully completed the Catholic School Office Leadership Program of the Diocese of Providence or a similar leadership program in another Roman Catholic diocese. In the event that a person is hired who has not completed such a program, arrangements must be made during the first year as principal to enter a Catholic school leadership program. This program must be completed by the end of the third year.
- 7) Have leadership ability as evidenced by performance in educational assignments, i.e., have the demonstrated capacity, enthusiasm, vision and management skills to direct and to inspire teachers, children, parents, clergy and local school community leaders.