



The Heights School

Rooted in Tradition, Growing in Wonder

OUR MISSION

The Heights School is a private, independent, preparatory school for boys, grades three through twelve. The School assists parents in the intellectual, moral, physical, and spiritual education of their sons. Dedicated teachers impart rigorous academic training in all major areas of the liberal arts.

Formation in virtue fosters respect for every person, a desire to serve God and others, and an optimistic attitude toward life's challenges. The School's Christian orientation and spiritual formation are entrusted to Opus Dei, a Personal Prelature of the Catholic Church.



The Heights School

The faculty of The Heights School works with parents to assist in the intellectual, moral and spiritual development of the boys and young men entrusted to them. They provide quality academic, athletic and cultural programs for boys in grades 3 – 12 and opportunities for parents to get involved with the life of the School.

The Heights offers a solid liberal arts education that focuses on the development of intellectual virtues, helping to foster the practice of concentrated study and a sincere interest in the abundant goodness of the world. Our curriculum is strongly grounded in the classic texts of western civilization. Our

students achieve impressive results on recognized standards of excellence such as Advanced Placement and SAT exams. Many of our graduates go on to the best colleges in the nation.

At The Heights, we help parents form their sons into the type of men they would want their daughters to marry. The faculty strives to present an example of what it means to be a true Christian gentleman, someone striving to do the ordinary things of life extraordinarily well for the love of God and in the service of others. All student programs take place in the context of a personal approach to education where cheerfulness goes hand in hand with hard work and a striving for self-mastery.



One of our natural history students could tell you that the success of a tree is largely due to its healthy root system. The success of The Heights is likewise a result of the School's well-established roots. Our curriculum is grounded in the great works of western civilization and the liberal arts. Our faculty is unified by its vision of what young men can and should become. Parents are committed to the School and to their role as primary educators. The spirituality of The Heights is entrusted to Opus Dei, ensuring that our teaching stays true to that of the Catholic Church. Finally, our mission informs all that we do at The School. Being firmly rooted allows the strong and healthy growth of The Heights and all of its students.

Rooted



Spirituality

Opus Dei, a personal prelature of the Catholic Church, ensures that The Heights stays true to the teachings of the Church. In addition, Opus Dei provides The School with our chaplains, who administer the sacraments on a daily basis. The spirit of Opus Dei fosters the pursuit of Christian ideals through work and the ordinary activities of everyday life.

Faculty

Our faculty are our greatest asset.

- They are qualified: 65% have advanced degrees.
- They are available: the student/faculty ratio is 8:1 (5:1 in the Upper School).
- They are friends and mentors: faculty members are also advisors.
- Heights students not only have great teachers, but great exemplars of strong, cheerful manhood.





Growing

Crescite Week

In pursuit of growing the whole man, Heights faculty members go beyond the classroom for multiple trips throughout the year. During Crescite Week, upper school students can travel with faculty to places like Ireland, Italy, Spain and Costa Rica; or they can stay local and go bird hunting or touring Civil War battlefields. Far from being a vacation, each Crescite Week trip is imbued with the spirit of adventure, learning and growing.



Crescite (“Grow”): The first word given to mankind from our creator is the School’s motto. A sincere dedication to the continual growth of every boy is what distinguishes The Heights School. Each student is challenged to grow onwards and upwards to his college, his career and to God. Heights students accomplish great academic, artistic and athletic feats, but each teacher and coach knows that it is the process that counts. What sets The Heights apart is a keen eye toward the mentoring in virtue of each boy, and the encouragement to strive to the best of his ability in all areas of life.



A Growing Campus

In addition to the minds, bodies and souls of our students, our campus and facilities are constantly growing and changing. This year we open the doors of the new main building for our Upper School, as well as a newly-renovated Middle School and sports field. Stop by for a visit and tour the new facilities.

Advisory

Since we take the mentoring of each boy so seriously, our Advisory program is an integral element of the School. Each student meets regularly with his advisor to discuss school, sports, friends—in a word, life.

Tradition

In 1969 a group of parents committed themselves to establishing a learning environment in which their sons could climb beyond their academic limits while becoming strong Christian gentlemen. Thus began The Heights, and this tradition of working closely with the parents for the education of each budding gentleman will always continue. The common knowledge and love for this vision among the parents and faculty makes for a closely knit Heights family.

Heights traditions are numerous and meaningful. We have school-wide capture-the-flag games to celebrate feast days. The Middle School hosts Gentlemen's Dinners for the students to celebrate Christmas, but also to learn social etiquette. Grades 3-8 make overnight camping trips to foster camaraderie and to celebrate the completion of the school year. These traditions are a way of sharing the School's beloved vision with the students.



Clans of the Crest

Students at The Heights are divided into four clans named after symbols from our crest, which represent virtues esteemed by all Heights men. The clans compete throughout the year for the Tower — a trophy symbolizing strength and vision. Festival days include school-wide Mass, a barbecue, and creative athletic competitions — a true feast!



Curriculum

The Heights academic education is based on a traditional liberal arts curriculum. Students learn how to read, comprehend and articulate (in writing and in speech) their own thoughts on the great works of western civilization.

Junior Trip

As a rite of passage before becoming leaders of the student body, Heights men embark on an amazing journey at the end of their junior year. Spanning nearly 100 miles and culminating at the location of Maryland's founding, the trip includes hiking, biking, canoeing and swimming.

The goal of any Heights teacher is to attune his students to reality. Heights boys learn to see the abundant goodness of the world and of all creation. This prepares the students for the challenges of life beyond high school, but it also trains them to love the world in which they are striving. Wonder is the engine for The Heights education. Boys who are excited, intrigued and fascinated will naturally be encouraged to learn. Genuinely interested faculty members teach what they love. Once their enthusiasm carries over to the students, the curiosity and search for reality has begun.

*“Wonder is the seed
of wisdom.”*

—ANCIENT GREEK PROVERB

Wonder



Natural History

Our quiet and heavily-wooded campus is perfectly suited for the curiosity and adventurous spirit of boys. In the Lower School, the faculty uses this great asset to teach natural history, in which the boys learn about trees, insects, and other animals. Natural history teaches the boys to notice and appreciate the world around them. This is an excellent beginning to a lifelong pursuit of knowledge.



Poetry

Poetry is an essential component of our curriculum. Students in grades 3-12 will memorize, analyze, recite and compose poetry for their literature classes or for the school-wide *Competition of the Bard*. Students learn that poetry is not simply an artistic use of language, but a means by which we can know and affirm creation. Robert Penn Warren mused that, “In the end, the poem is not a thing we see — it is, rather, a light by which we may see — and what we see is life.” For that reason poetry has a prominent place in a Heights education.





Beyond the Classroom

Many parents at The Heights will tell you that what they appreciate most about the School is its impressive balance and variety. The Heights has a flexible and challenging curriculum, great sports teams and school spirit, an outstanding music program, and a multitude of extracurricular clubs in which the students have the opportunity to participate.

The Heights faculty tries to foster each unique niche and talent in every one of our students. A successful Heights graduate will have experimented with numerous subjects and sports, outlets and hobbies, and grown in his talents to make him who he is.

Athletics

The Heights fields teams in the following sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Lacrosse
- Golf
- Soccer
- Squash
- Swimming
- Track & Field
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Wrestling

The Heights teams boast excellent and gifted student-athletes, many of whom go on to college-level sports. But our real success is a result of our excellent coaching staff and hard-fighting teams that honor the game they play with sportsmanship and a competitive spirit.



Music

In addition to our successful drama club, music has become an accomplished and impressive program. Beginner, intermediate and advanced bands, jazz band, orchestra, chorus and a cappella groups comprise a stellar line-up of options for our students. Some of these groups travel for competitions and all of them perform twice a year at the Strathmore Concert Hall.

Beyond The Heights

College preparation is a natural component of The Heights education. Heights faculty understand that their task is not simply to get their students into great universities, but rather to equip them with the skills, virtues and abilities to succeed in college. In this vein, our college counselors work with juniors and seniors in the same direct and personal way that our entire School operates. They work with each student to help him find not only the best school, but the best school for him. The college counselors also understand that this process can be an opportunity for the student's growth—a chance to present himself to the broader world in a professional manner.

Here is where you could find some of our alumni:

■ Catholic University ■ Columbia University ■ Duke University
■ Georgetown University ■ Harvard University ■ Princeton
University ■ Providence College ■ United States Naval Academy
■ University of Chicago ■ University of Dallas ■ University of
Maryland ■ University of Navarre, Spain ■ University of Notre
Dame ■ University of Pennsylvania ■ University of Virginia



CONTACT INFORMATION

Director of Admissions:
Richard Moss
rmoss@heights.edu

Coordinator of Admissions:
Dorothy Reilly
dreilly@heights.edu

Admissions Office:
301.765.2093

Application available online:
www.heights.edu/apply

Admissions

Submit a completed application.

This includes the following:

- Application Form.
- Academic Records with proper Heights Request for Records Form.
- Recommendation Form completed by a current teacher (at least one).
- \$50 application fee.

Call the School to arrange for a day-long student visit. Student visits begin in October and end in March.

Prospective upper school students must take the SSAT (www.ssat.org).

Once your son's application is completed (steps one, two, and three if applicable), call the School to arrange for a family interview. Completing the family interview is the final step required for full consideration by The Heights School.

The Heights School is open to all interested and qualified students and admits students of any race, creed, color, 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, creed, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan program, athletic and other school-related programs, or in the employment of its faculty and staff.



*"The glory of God
is a man fully alive."*

—ST. IRENAEUS



The Heights School

10400 Seven Locks Road

Potomac, Maryland 20854

T: 301.365.4300

F: 301.365.4303

www.heights.edu