

As citizens of St. Joseph's Prep, every member of our community is integral to the realization of our mission as a Catholic and Jesuit school. The mission of the Prep is entrusted to its "citizens." Only through our active ongoing engagement can the Prep fulfill its mission, sustain its educational legacy and overcome future challenges.

As citizens, our inspirational Jesuit mission strengthens our sense of purpose and unity, and enables us to discern how to engage with the challenges and opportunities that lie before us. Whether we are students, alumni, parents, colleagues or Trustees, as part of the Prep community, we must see ourselves as citizens of Prep Nation and owners of the school's mission. As we seek to become "men and women for and with the Prep," we are each charged with a particular role in realizing our mission—a task that can only be accomplished when we generously share our unique gifts in pursuing our shared vision of the future.

To truly thrive, St. Joseph's Prep depends on strong citizen engagement. Imagine this vision of Prep citizenship for different parts of our community:

- **Students of the Prep** understand and appreciate their place within the larger community of which the Prep is a part. They are engaged in both the school community and in our neighborhood, city and region—the world beyond the classroom—consistent with the Prep's legacy of civic engagement and service to the City of Philadelphia.
- **Colleagues of the Prep** immerse themselves in the mission of the school even beyond their particular roles, keeping students' well-being and growth at the center of all their decisions.
- **Trustees of the Prep** embrace their fiduciary responsibility for the institution, make the Prep their primary philanthropic interest, serve as the ultimate guardians of the school's sacred Jesuit and Catholic educational mission, and champion the Prep in the wider community.
- **Alumni of the Prep** steward the legacy through their annual financial support, openness to larger gifts during campaigns, attendance at events and service through the alumni association. They speak well of the Prep to prospective families or by encouraging bright young men to consider the school.
- **Parents of the Prep** partner with the school in a shared educational mission as their sons' primary educators, working in concert with our Prep colleagues in passing on the legacy. They are encouraged to be active in the school's fundraising and admissions efforts.

The Society of Jesus can be found at the very origins of Philadelphia Catholic history. When difficult events challenged our young Church and our society, they didn't withdraw, but became involved—just as St. Ignatius Loyola had intended. Throughout the city's history, they have persisted—and flourished. Just as the Prep embraces *cura personalis*, or care for the person, especially with regard to our students, as an institutional citizen, it embraces *cura urbi*, or care for the city. This focus on Philadelphia is vital for our community to thrive and for our students to fully engage in the struggles and challenges of the City of Philadelphia.

St. Joseph's Prep has a long history of success rooted in the Jesuit paradigms of excellence in all endeavors, a broad education that goes well beyond the classroom and a zeal for helping young people deepen their faith in Jesus Christ.

