

St. Croix Preparatory Academy to join new Skyline Conference in 2019-20 school year

**FOR RELEASE
JANUARY 30, 2018**

The administration of St. Croix Preparatory Academy announced today that SCPA will join the new eight school Skyline Conference, which will begin play in the 2019-20 school year. The new conference will include Athletics, Activities, and Fine Arts.

The eight schools are **Concordia Academy** and **Saint Agnes** from the Tri Metro Conference, **Maranatha Christian Academy**, **St. Croix Preparatory Academy**, **New Life Academy** and **Trinity at River Ridge** from the Minnesota Christian Athletic Association and **Cristo Rey Jesuit** and **Nova Classical Academy** from the Twin Cities Athletic Conference.

The mission of the Skyline Conference is to provide transformational education-based athletic and fine arts experiences for our students and communities of our member schools.

Skyline Conference Leadership:

Mike Streitz, Saint Agnes – President
Robert Carpentier, Cristo Rey Jesuit – Vice President
Rich Dippel, St. Croix Prep – Secretary
Kevin Kleiner, New Life - Treasurer

Why Change Conferences? Although SCPA has only been a member of the MCAA for two years, the opportunity to join this new conference led us to reevaluate our conference affiliation. We are thankful for opportunity the MCAA gave us and those positive relationships we have with those schools.

Moving from the MCAA to the Skyline Conference reduces our average conference trip from 40 miles to 20 miles. This will benefit our students and families by not having as many long drives and late nights on school nights. The move to the Skyline Conference will tighten the enrollment range of our conference members and place us all in the same competition class in most sports. The Skyline Conference will also have a bigger involvement for SCPA in fine arts and other activities, which will enhance our students overall experience.

What stays the same? Joining the Skyline Conference does not change our athletics and activities philosophy at SCPA, which is to help prepare students for life through participation in co-curricular programs that compliment and integrate our mission of character, leadership and academics. Post season play will not change. Class and Section assignments are governed by the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). Football will continue with District play. Districts replaced conferences 3 years ago to place schools with similar enrollments in the same group.

What Changes? Our conference members changed, although three are coming with us from the MCAA so only four are new conference members to us. Shorter trips for conference away games. Possible changes to conference schedule formats. Increased involved for fine arts programs at the conference level.

School Capsules

Concordia Academy (Beacons)

Location: Roseville
Enrollment: 265
Head of School: Rev. Dr. Tim Berner

Athletic Director: Brian Brown
Website: www.concordiaacademy.com

Cristo Rey Jesuit (Pumas)

Location: Minneapolis
Enrollment: 289
President: Jeb Myers

Athletic Director: Robert Carpentier
Website: www.cristoreytc.org

Maranatha Christian Academy (Mustangs)

Location: Brooklyn Park
Enrollment: 250
Head of School: Brian Sullivan

Athletic Director: Larry Tate
Website: www.mcamustangs.org

New Life Academy (Eagles)

Location: Woodbury
Enrollment: 235
Head of School: Clark Gilbert

Athletic Director: Kevin Kleiner
Website: www.newlifeacademy.org

Nova Classical Academy (Knights)

Location: St. Paul
Enrollment: 272
Executive Director: Jon Gutierrez

Athletic Director: Christian Rovn
Website: www.novaclassical.org

Saint Agnes (Aggies)

Location: St. Paul
Enrollment: 266
Headmaster: Dr. Kevin Ferdinandt

Athletic Director: Michael Streitz
Website: www.saintagnesschool.org

St. Croix Preparatory Academy (Lions)

Location: Stillwater
Enrollment: 345
Executive Director: Jon Gutierrez

Athletic Director: Rich Dippel
Website: www.stcroixprep.org

Trinity at River Ridge (Tri Hawks)

Location: Eagan
Enrollment: 212
Head of School: Beth Schmitz

Athletic Director: Pat Buchanan
Website: www.trinityschools.org/riverridge

SKYLINE CONFERENCE

Mike Streitz, President/Robert Carpentier, Vice President/Rich Dippel, Secretary/Kevin Kleiner, Treasurer