

# Inaugural Executive Director Search

Galileo Preparatory Academy | Franklin, Tenn.



**GALILEO**  
PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Re-imagining middle and high school  
education for a connected world.



# New School. New Position.

Galileo Preparatory Academy seeks its first visionary leader who appreciates the school's founding principles, embraces the potential for transformative growth, and can lead others to accomplish ambitious community goals. The first Executive Director will be an experienced and collaborative educator who enthusiastically embodies both the mission and curriculum while projecting and communicating optimism and boundless possibility. Successful candidates will have a demonstrated record of achievement at the senior administrative level, with specific accomplishments in helping lead schools to growth and innovation. This is an extraordinary opportunity to lead an exceptionally designed new school with a powerful social mission, a drive to build strong community connections, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of its students.

## Just the Beginning

Opening in fall of 2022, and located in Franklin, Tenn., Galileo Preparatory Academy is the first proprietary campus of the Galileo Education Group, based in Nashville. This exciting, for-profit, well-funded group is starting their physical campus program first in Franklin and then expanding to multiple campuses across the Southeastern USA.

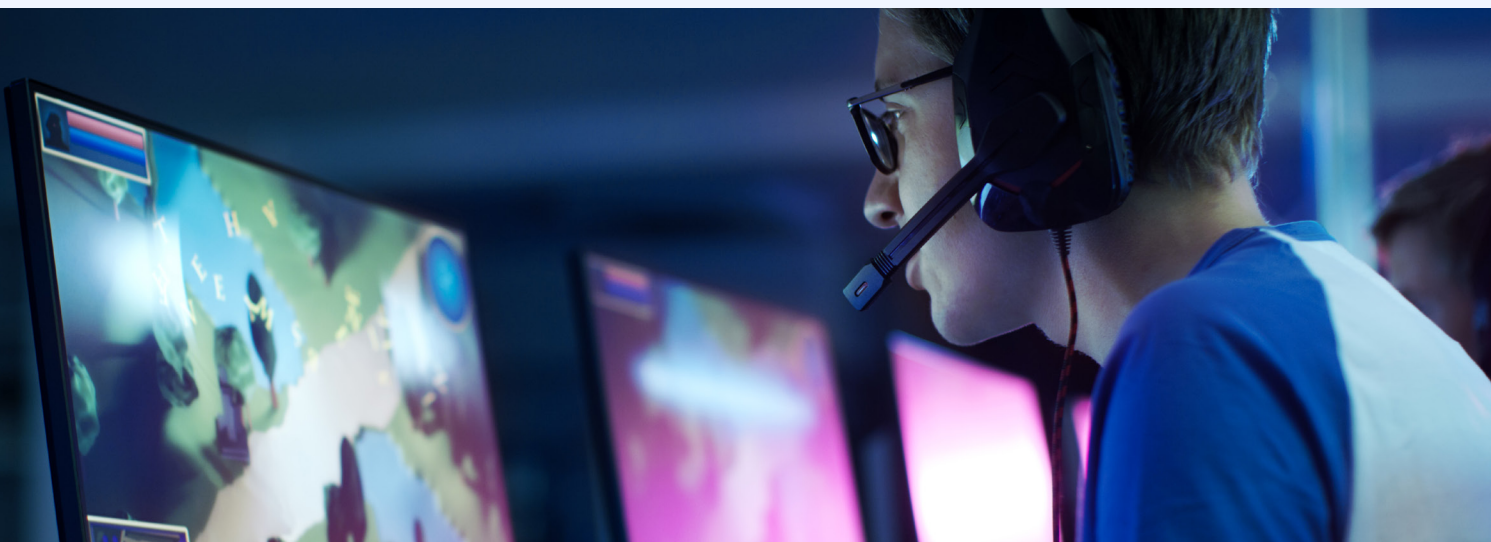
## A better way to learn is here.

At Galileo Preparatory Academy, our students will prepare for higher education while embracing their individual passions in a safe, welcoming environment. Our personalized model marries the best of in-person and virtual formats and challenging, tech-forward curriculum with one end goal: educating future leaders, fully prepared to pursue higher education or enter the tech workforce.



# Profile of the Ideal Candidate.

- Ability to envision and articulate the future of the school with clear commitment to maintaining high standards in a supportive, student-centered environment. Ambitious commitment to sustaining and advancing the best possible school.
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion to further build the type of culture and community that is welcoming and transformative for all.
- Exercise practical, reasoned, and timely decision-making when addressing challenges and solving problems.
- Proven desire to be visible within the school, at events, and in the classroom.
- Active intent to engage with the broader community as the face and symbol of the school. A leader for all stakeholders.
- Strong communication skills and an approachable personality.
- Cultivated sense of strategic direction based on knowledge of educational trends.
- An entrepreneurial spirit.
- A keen interest in building student enrollment.
- An appetite for being part of a different for-profit model.
- Interest in working with a corporate senior staff in a different for-profit entity to govern the school for long-term growth and health.
- Proven record of attracting and retaining excellent teachers and administrators.
- A keen focus on human resources, ensuring that Galileo is a preferred place to work.
- Genuine pleasure in knowing and connecting with students of all ages and backgrounds.
- Experience teaching and leading in an independent or private school.
- Proven administrative background with ability to hold everyone accountable, serving first as a model of self-awareness and personal discipline.
- Demonstrated interest and ability to understand the financial side of the school.
- A professional with a keen sense of self, yet is happy to share credit as well as engage others in planning and growth. Someone who sees themselves as a collaborative leader, rather than the center of the organization.
- Lively intellect and sense of humor.



# Building a Culture of Aspirational Growth.

## Take schooling to new heights!

Galileo Preparatory Academy offers schooling for students in grades 6 through 12, utilizing premium digital resources and career-focused certification processes. Our academy is for students who are independent, motivated, and passionate about technology and the arts.

### The Galileo Way

Providing students with a foundation of excellence is our goal.

We teach in a personalized way, so our students are able to reach their full potential in and out of the classroom.

Communication is important. We teach proper communication skills, which enables our students to adapt and succeed throughout their lives.

It's not just about the "now." Providing real-life experiences for our students helps launch them toward postsecondary success and independence.

Our school provides a continuous, 12-month availability, so students are able to learn on their own time, and see new content on a recurring schedule.

### A Social Mission – Galileo for Foster Children

Galileo's robust business model will allow qualified foster students to access Galileo Preparatory Academy free of charge. For every 24 subscribed students enrolled, one student from the foster care system will be enrolled.

There are more than 430,000 children in foster care in the U.S. (3,000 in Middle Tennessee).

About one-third of foster care students change schools at least five times before they reach adulthood.

Each school change is estimated to result in their falling behind their peers by at least a semester.

On average, foster care students reach only a seventh-grade reading level, and only 11 percent of them will complete a bachelor's degree.

Galileo's hybrid learning model will allow for foster care students' education to be uninterrupted regardless of their physical placement.



# The Purpose-Driven Curriculum Consists of Four Pillars.



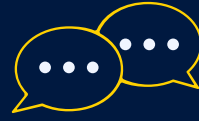
## Core

Traditional studies in English, mathematics, history, and the sciences.



## Focus

In-depth study in graphic arts and design, IT, gaming, and business leadership.



## Dialogues

Growing skills in problem-solving, communication, and self-expression through exploration of the arts.



## Community

Developing interests and skills that improve the common good.

## An Exciting New Location.

Located in the heart of Middle Tennessee, our state-of-the-art facility is a convenient drive from Franklin, Brentwood, Bellevue, Thompson's Station, and more. However, our personalized model allows for virtual instruction, which gives you the freedom to set schedules for daily learning and breaks that work best for the students. Wherever you are, or however you choose to lead, Galileo welcomes you.



The school has retained **Big Back Pack LLC** to execute a national search for its first Executive Director. Interested and qualified candidates should submit electronically in one email and as **separate PDF documents** the following materials:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position
- A current resume
- A one-page statement of professional philosophy and leadership practice
- An annotated list of five professional references with name, phone number, and email address (references will be contacted only with prior candidate approval)

**All materials should be sent via email to:**



**Steve Mandell, M.Ed.**

Founder and Principal Consultant  
Big Back Pack, LLC  
steve@bigbackpack.org



**Hacker Burr**

Senior Search Consultant  
Big Back Pack, LLC  
hacker@bigbackpack.org

