



## President of Schools

HALF | TIME  
TALENT SOLUTIONS

# Open Sky Education

*One child, one school, and one community at a time*

Open Sky Education works to ensure that world-class academics, character formation and faith-based educational choices are accessible and **affordable for all**. These are the three pillars of a truly full and lasting education.

## History

**Open Sky Education** (OSE), formerly Educational Enterprises, Inc., is an entrepreneurial not-for-profit organization in tireless pursuit of a full and lasting education for all children. The leadership team and Board of Open Sky believe that our country is undergoing a macro shift in educational structure and policy. This shift makes now an opportune time to bring innovative thinking to the educational landscape, to ensure that strong academics, character formation and faith formation are accessible and affordable for all. As leaders, Open Sky sees:

- Unprecedented need
- Unprecedented opportunity
- Unprecedented responsibility

Open Sky is positioned to seize this moment with a simple and challenging formula: “A great teacher in every classroom and a great leader in every building.” The **President of Schools** will be a dynamic and strategic leader who helps identify the most important means to reach that end. Open Sky is seeking a leader who shares the organization’s vision: *We envision a world with unlimited opportunity and freedom for all children to pursue their full potential, live flourishing lives and serve Greater Purpose.* This vision inspires the organization’s purpose: *To ensure world-class education, character formation and faith-based educational choices are accessible and affordable for all children.*

The President of Schools will ensure this vision and purpose is carried out within the national networks of schools we support and manage: **HOPE Christian Schools** and **EAGLE College Preparatory Schools**. Open Sky has made great strides defining its academic model, aligning curriculum and sharing best practices across the networks. The leader being sought will continue this momentum and bring additional energy and expertise to a culture of continuous improvement.

The President of Schools will oversee the HOPE Christian Schools and EAGLE College Preparatory Schools networks and coordinate closely with two of our other divisions, Compass Educational Programs and the Character Formation Project. To date, the organization has served more than 4,000 scholars, with the help of 400 leaders serving in 24



campus learning environments in three major regions of the country – Greater Milwaukee, WI, St. Louis, MO and Phoenix, AZ. Not content with “better than average,” Open Sky strives to improve both its quality of education and its capacity to serve, relying on innovation, creativity, and an entrepreneurial spirit. One child, one school, and one community at a time, they are working to build the foundation of our great nation’s future.

The job ahead is to further systematize, optimize, and prepare to scale Open Sky’s national network and innovative models without compromising affordable access or measured excellence in scholar experience. The man or woman for this job is well-read in the field, passionate about making a generational shift and seeing the impact on individual scholars, families and communities.

The ideal candidate shares Open Sky’s drive to serve **Greater Purpose**: a cause or context that is greater than ourselves and inspires us to serve selflessly. As a Christian organization, Open Sky Education serves the Greater Purpose of advancing God’s plan for the organization and for those it serves. Our colleagues employed by EAGLE College Preparatory Schools serve Greater Purpose of a civic nature. Open Sky respects and maintains careful separation between the Christian entities and the public entities it operates.



## Programs

- **HOPE Christian Schools**

HOPE is a network of eight Christian college-preparatory schools in Milwaukee and Racine, WI. HOPE offers K-12 students a values-based education centered on **Christ. College. Character.**® HOPE develops knowledge, cultivates character, and nurtures faith, all of which equips scholars to be inspirations to their families,

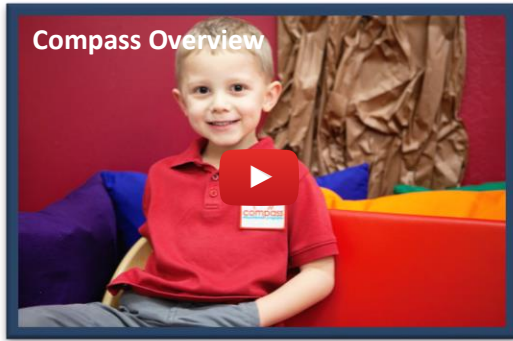
leaders in their communities and successful in the workplace.

- **EAGLE College Preparatory Schools**

EAGLE schools are open enrollment public charter schools for scholars in kindergarten through 8th grade. The EAGLE name describes this unique approach: “Expecting Academic Greatness with a Loving Emphasis®.” EAGLE schools pursue academic excellence in a safe, supportive and loving learning environment.

Current communities served include [Phoenix, Arizona](#) and [St. Louis, Missouri](#) areas. The rigorous academics and character formation in EAGLE schools combine to develop life-long learners who are able to make wise decisions inside and outside of the classroom.





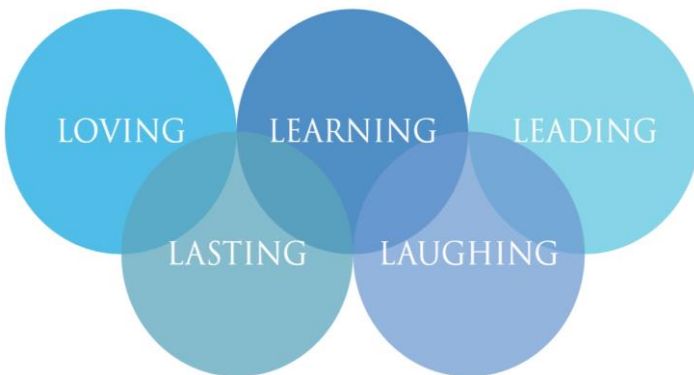
- **Compass Educational Programs**

Compass Educational Programs offers quality preschool as well as warm and welcoming before- and after-school care. The Compass mission is to provide each child with high-quality learning in a safe and loving Christian environment. Teachers and mentors guide scholars on their faith journey, with Compass serving as a tool to help children walk with purpose toward their full potential as serving leaders and children of God.

These programs are conveniently located adjacent to EAGLE College Preparatory Schools and are currently offered in two regions: the Arizona Region and the St. Louis Region.

- **Character Formation Project**

The Character Formation Project is a licensed set of character formation content and programming with two versions – one for public schools based on civic character, and the other for Christian education based on Christian character. As Character formation is a life-long process, the Project seeks to prepare people to lead virtuous lives for Greater Purpose. With a team of veteran educators and parents, Open Sky researched how character is acquired and where it is held, and found a natural character formation process emerged which promotes the formation of internally driven character rather than externally motivated behavior. This story-based program is designed for students, teachers and parents to journey together through the unique process for forming internal character. It is delivered on a dynamic electronic platform with a corresponding mobile app.



### **Organizational Values**

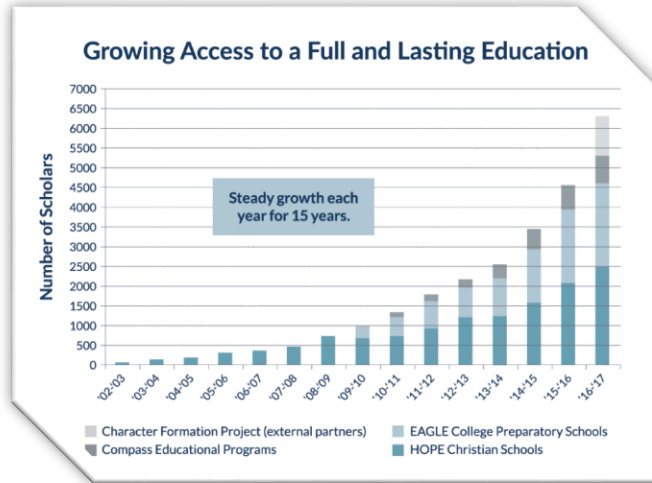
In all they do, Open Sky is guided by a shared set of values, found in each setting from the classroom to leadership meetings and every interaction in between. These include:

- **Loving** – Our actions and interactions are guided by **unconditional** love. We hold the bar high and then support our serving leaders to achieve fullest potential.
- **Learning** – We learn by approaching every situation with **humility**, striving to grow with each experience.
- **Leading** – We lead with relentless pursuit of full potential. We build on the strong work of those before us and **leave a trail** for others.
- **Lasting** – We strive to build **sustainable** models for our serving leaders and our organization.
- **Laughing** – We balance the urgency of our work with laughter, the emotional expression of joy rooted in **certain hope**. We find **satisfaction** in **completing good work** for Greater Purpose.

# President of Schools

## Overview

In a rapidly developing network of learning environments, Open Sky Education has concentrated on opportunistic response to situations that have needed immediate development, grass roots staffing and local



market leadership. With the pursuit of the President of Schools, Open Sky is continuing its commitment to strategic growth in its private Christian schools and public charter schools. Open Sky is seeking an experienced leader in the President of Schools who will press forward tirelessly, committed to continuous improvement and innovation, with a boundless energy befitting of the significance of the work being done in the lives of those they serve. The President of Schools will focus his/her attention on private Christian schools and public charter schools, facilitating local and regional school site density as well as national expansion of the model, perhaps through a customized licensing or franchising model that fits with the OSE mission.

Open Sky has achieved steady growth annually since beginning with one school and 47 students in 2002. The organization strives to create sustainable, scalable models that will achieve unlimited opportunities for all children to pursue their full potential in an affordable and supportive setting. The President of Schools will give leadership to the strategic growth planning and overall quality management of the experience of all students, teachers, supporters and parent partners in each of our school learning environments across the country.

As a member of the Senior Management Team, the President of Schools will lead the Schools Division of Open Sky Education, overseeing the team of Principal Directors to manage the performance of all school operations and the professional growth of all school team members. He/she will also serve as Chair of the Academic Committee to manage and lead innovation for all aspects of the educational model including curriculum development, assessment, data analysis strategy and instructional strategies.

An important aspect of this role includes the school growth initiative, which the President of Schools will manage, working to replicate the schools within existing regions, explore and initiate growth into new regions, and explore expanding the growth strategy to include both OSE-operated networks of schools as well as the possibility of franchise models of growth in the future.

	I My Identity	P My Purpose	A My Actions
<b>For the individual</b>	<p><b>Who am I?</b></p> <p><b>In all of our entities,</b> I am a human being created with great value and unique potential.</p> <p><b>In our Christian entities,</b> I am a redeemed child of God in light of what Jesus has done for me (1 John 3:1).</p>	<p><b>Why am I?</b></p> <p><b>In all of our entities,</b> I am here to discover how I am uniquely suited to advance a Greater Purpose.</p> <p><b>In our Christian entities,</b> the answer is found in Ephesians 2:10: <i>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.</i></p>	<p><b>How shall I live?</b></p> <p><b>In all of our entities,</b> I seek to live in a way that advances a Greater Purpose, with a framework of civic virtues as a guide.</p> <p><b>In our Christian entities,</b> the answer is found in Colossians 3:23: <i>"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."</i> The virtues are defined in the context of Scripture.</p>
<b>For the organization</b>	<p><b>Who are we?</b></p> <p>Open Sky Education is an entrepreneurial, not-for-profit organization in tireless pursuit of a full and lasting education for all children.</p>	<p><b>Why are we?</b></p> <p>Open Sky Education works to ensure that world-class academics, character formation and faith-based educational choices are accessible and affordable for all.</p>	<p><b>What will we advance?</b></p> <p>We advance initiatives in accordance with our Purpose, with our organizational values as a framework for making decisions.</p>

## Responsibilities

The President of Schools will have the following responsibilities:

- Manage the effectiveness of Open Sky Schools in closing achievement gaps and building serving leaders of strong character. This includes managing the Open Sky Schools teams and utilizing systems to monitor progress in all key areas including the measurement of consistent system implementation, leading indicators, and final performance measurements;
- Provide leadership and strategic support for the Open Sky People Development team to:
  - Ensure recruiting, screening, onboarding, support and professional development, and career path options align with educational models and goals;
  - In collaboration with Open Sky People Development Team, set vision and establish objectives related to teacher evaluation and professional development;
- Share responsibility for successfully advancing the Open Sky mission across all its divisions;
- Ensure organizational alignment with Open Sky's values and culture;
- Collaborate to make strategic decisions related to the national annual plan, collaborate with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure its execution across all divisions of Open Sky, and take leadership responsibilities for execution of the Open Sky Schools annual plan;
- Lead communications and fundraising efforts for OSE Schools and share responsibility for all external and internal communications for Open Sky;
- Build OSE's growing network of strategic partnerships.

## Key Candidate Characteristics

- Models and embeds organization mission and values into leadership and operations (e.g. Faith Formation, Character Formation);
- Entrepreneurial mindset; tireless pursuit of excellence;
- Vibrant Christian faith;
- A passion in helping children understand the "IPA Triangle" (description on previous page) which is central to Open Sky's own identity as an organization, and parallel for individuals.

## Requirements

- Master's degree or higher;
- Passionate commitment for Open Sky's values, mission and vision;
- Articulated faith in Christ Jesus and a desire to share the love of Christ with children and community;
- Robust understanding of and experience in the field of education with demonstrated success in leading academic excellence;
- Proven experience in positions of senior management in a rapid growth organization of significant scale;
- Bold, consistent, serving leader of high character;
- Creative and strategic thinker who enjoys tackling challenges and overcoming obstacles through collaboration;
- Strong relational and communication skills;
- Operational mindset with experience managing financial and operational performance;
- Must be able to travel between multiple locations as needed to support organization growth.

**For more information, or to apply for this position, please contact**

**Greg Barnes, President**

**Laura Weaver, Senior Search Consultant**

**(214) 468-9055**

**office@halftimetalent.com**