

Dear Saint Patrick Family,

After 54 years of tireless commitment, leadership and vision, our beloved president, Dr. Joseph G. Schmidt, AFSC, has informed the Board of Trustees of his intent to transition out of his role as president at the end of the 2020-21 academic year. With his recent two-year contract extension, we are pleased Dr. Joe will remain with the school at least through 2022 and hopefully thereafter in some as yet undefined capacity. We receive this news as to Dr. Joe's future plans with tremendous admiration, appreciation and respect for what he has accomplished in his years at Saint Patrick.

As a 1986 graduate of Saint Patrick, the proud parent of 2014 and 2020 alumni and a current sophomore, it has been my distinct honor to work alongside Dr. Joe in his role as president. Prior to becoming president in 2013, Dr. Joe began his teaching career at Saint Patrick in the fall of 1967, was promoted to dean of students in 1974 and named principal in 1987, becoming the first lay principal under the new president/principal model at the time. For 54 years, Dr. Joe has been the heart and soul of Saint Patrick and we would not be celebrating the 160th year in the school's history without his leadership and dedication to our mission.

As we move forward, I want to assure you that the Board of Trustees is dedicated to finding a new president who, like Dr. Joe, embraces the principles of a Lasallian education and provides the vital leadership necessary to ensure the future success of Saint Patrick High School. We are fortunate that Dr. Joe has provided us with ample notice of his decision and a willingness to continue to lead during the transition as we work with him to continue the time-honored traditions of Saint Patrick.

We are deeply grateful for Dr. Joe's inspirational stewardship over the past 54 years, and we look forward to the many opportunities to celebrate and recognize him and his accomplishments throughout the 2020-21 academic year. While Dr. Joe will continue to be a part of the family, I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and the entire Saint Patrick community, for his friendship, strength, guidance and, most of all, his positive Shamrock spirit in the President's role and look forward to working with him in the future.

Sincerely,



Michael G. O'Rourke '86
Board Chairman