

April 7, 2021

Dear St. Joseph's Academy Community:

I want to update you on your Board of Directors' search for a new President of St. Joseph's Academy and on the status of our current President, Dr. Regina Mooney. Earlier this month, our Search Committee broadened the scope of this important search by engaging the services of Carney, Sandoe & Associates, a highly regarded academic search and recruiting firm specializing in Catholic independent schools nationally. This step, which was necessary to ensure that we find the best possible leader to guide us into the future, has already resulted in several highly qualified candidates identified through our joint efforts with Bob Regan, the firm's Group Practice Leader for the Catholic Schools Practice and Senior Consultant, Barbara Dausch.

The next step for Bob and his team is to engage in dialogue with key constituents from our St. Joseph's Academy community in order to further identify priorities about our next leader. A community survey is also being prepared and will be distributed shortly in order to gain additional perspective on our leadership priorities. Our goal is to have a new President hired and on board by this Summer. That said, if the right successor is not in place by summer, I am pleased to tell you that an interim leadership plan for the 2021-2022 school year has been developed and can be put in place as needed. In either scenario, we will prioritize a thorough search to find the right person to lead our wonderful school.

Dr. Mooney will be retiring at the end of the current 2021 academic year. She has made many lasting contributions that have strengthened our school's ability to thrive and accomplished a great deal in collaboration with the SJA community, including:

- Leading a \$7.5mm campus transformation including the state-of-the-art Weidert Center for Integrated Science for STEM-related instruction, the Sisters of St. Joseph Humanities Hall for visual arts education and a new Campus Ministry Center.
- Providing focus on the Admissions, College Advising, and Institutional Advancement Offices which has resulted in increased diversity, college scholarships, alumnae engagement, funding, and financial aid for deserving students.
- Creating and implementing a vision for a Global Education program.

Dr. Mooney's successor will, no doubt, be grateful for the gifts of her leadership.

This is an exciting time at St. Joseph's Academy, and finding the right next President is the Board's and Search Committee's top priority. We will update you, our valued community, on our progress as we have news to share and will let you know by early June the status of any possible interim plans. Thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have thoughts or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Julia Bigley Mize ('92), Chair, Search Committee