



DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ALLIANCE

March 1, 2023

Dear Members of the St. John Paul II School Community,

It is with great pleasure that I share with you that Phillip J. VanDenBrink has been selected to become the next President of St. John Paul II School. Mr. VanDenBrink comes to us from Wasatch Academy in Mt. Pleasant, Utah, where he currently is Associate Director of Admissions, Director of University Foundations, and a teacher. Prior to Wasatch, Mr. VanDenBrink was principal at Great Falls Central Catholic High School in Great Falls, Montana. In addition, he has served in leadership positions at Leysin American School in Switzerland and at Beijing National Day School in China. Throughout his career, he has worked to create new programs, develop new partnerships to enhance education, and increase enrollment to ensure the overall health and quality of programs while focusing on the student experience as the center of programmatic initiatives.

Mr. VanDenBrink brings 19 years of experience in education to the role. He received his undergraduate degree in International Business and German, with a minor in French, from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He holds master's degrees in education and educational leadership from Middlebury College and the University of Cincinnati, respectively. In 2016, Mr. VanDenBrink earned a certificate in catechesis from the University of Dayton. A Michigan native, he is excited to enter into the next chapter of his career at St. John Paul II, where he can focus his energy on leading the school toward a bright future.

In January, I formed a President Search Committee consisting of committed stakeholders who set about a process, with the help of Carney Sandoe & Associates, to define the essential attributes necessary for the next President of St. John Paul II School. The school community joined these efforts by participating in hosting and interviewing finalists and responding to electronic surveys. All of this feedback was compiled and reported to the Search Committee to inform the process for finding the ideal candidate.

Working with Carney, Sandoe, & Associates over the last few months, the President Search Committee interviewed many exciting candidates. In January, the Search Committee brought three of the most experienced and talented candidates to the St. John Paul II campus. At the conclusion of this comprehensive process, Mr. VanDenBrink rose to the top as a deeply committed Catholic educator and administrator whose commitment to mission and insights into admissions, retention, and marketing were truly impressive.

On behalf of the Search Committee, I would like to thank the St. John Paul II School community for its engagement, support, guidance, and time in finding the best person to build on the mission in leading the school into the future.

Sincerely,

Daniel Roy
Superintendent of Schools