



April 28, 2016

To Sister Patrice Werner O.P., Caldwell Leadership Council, Lacordaire Academy Board of Trustees, and the Lacordaire Academy Community past and present:

It has been my distinct honor and privilege, for the past 9 ½ years, to serve the Sisters of St. Dominic and the Lacordaire Academy community. Little did I know what would lie ahead as I applied in the early spring of 2007 to be the Lacordaire Academy interim Head of School. Within a few months, under the wise direction of Sr. Luella, I officially began my journey as “The Head of School” on 1 July 2007.

In July 2007, in the midst of some angst and uncertainty, I soon learned that my students and Board leadership would provide me the strength and guidance to forge a “new academy” in the form of a “one school” model. In the spring of 2008, with a collaborative team, we began a Middle States self-study that provided the insight, structure and process by which we could accomplish this much needed alignment. The vision was formally realized on 1 May 2010 when Lacordaire was accredited as a one school academy, serving grades prek-12.

Over the past years, the Academy has gained energy and momentum. With a passionate and supportive learning community, the Academy has a stable, diverse, and growing enrollment. The student body is nurtured by a world class staff and faculty who execute an educational experience that instills confidence, competence, and leadership. We have emplaced technology and learning methodologies that support 21st century learning and expanded our outreach resulting in the increase of alums, friends and families who support the academy with their precious time and resources. Our community service endeavors, Academy Arts program, Athletic teams and numerous extracurricular clubs and activities showcase our students in virtually every aspect of society. Furthermore, we have strengthened our footprint and are recognized by our peers as a distinguished independent private catholic school; a school established in 1920 founded on Dominican values that have been and will remain a beacon of light and hope for so many. With the celebration of the 100th anniversary just four years away, there is much to celebrate and still much more to be accomplished by the Academy. With the re-accreditation process underway, I am confident that the Academy will sustain its level of excellence and continue to strive to reach new heights.

After significant reflection and deliberation, and with Nancy’s blessing, I have decided that when I graduate the classes of 2017, it will also be the right time for me to step down as the Head of School and graduate from 40 years of formal employment to enjoy a semi-retired form of life. Words cannot express my gratitude to the Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell and to the Lacordaire staff, faculty, parents, and friends for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community and for the amazing life-changing experiences that will forever be embedded in my heart and memory. Thank You and God Bless!

Best,

Brian