



DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ALLIANCE

August 10, 2022

Dear St. John Paul II School Community,

We are pleased to announce that Susan Niden, the retired and distinguished Principal at Jackson School in Newton, MA, has been selected as Interim President for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Susan led Jackson School, a Catholic coeducational institution for students in grades K through sixth, as Principal for 29 years before retiring in 2019 to serve as an Educational Consultant for the CSO Archdiocese of Boston, where she has helped guide principals in professional growth. An education major, Susan earned her B.A. from SUNY College at New Paltz, M.S. from Syracuse University, and a C.A.S. in Educational Administration from SUNY College at Oswego. Prior to her arrival at Jackson School, Susan served as Principal of Keith Catholic School in Lowell.

We see JP II as a wonderful fit for Susan's skills and experience. A highly relational and faith-filled leader who has worked diligently to create trusting relationships, Susan is thrilled to be named Interim President and sees JP II's mission as central to her life as a Catholic educator.

During her long tenure at Jackson School, Susan helped lead a school known for its warm, nurturing, and intellectually curious environment where the whole child flourished. Susan's accomplishments are many: she championed the "Responsive Classroom" program, effectively oversaw campus improvement projects, guided admission and advancement programs, implemented a STEAM Maker Space and a 1-to-1 iPad program, and facilitated three NEASC accreditation visits and self-study reports, while building a healthy, collaborative, and vibrant school culture. Susan's love of education and community building led her to serve on the board of Bethany Hill Place and as a past Commission member for NEASC. Residing on Cape Cod with her husband George, Susan will also bring local knowledge of the community and of St. John Paul II. Susan eagerly looks forward to serving JP II in the coming year.

We are indebted to the commitment of the Search Committee, Advisory Board, and JP II faculty, staff, administration, and parents for their efforts during the Interim President search process, in partnership with Carney Sandoe & Associates. In early September, we will begin a search for a highly qualified permanent President for the 2023-24 academic year.

The Interim President search process thus far has reaffirmed St. John Paul II School's outstanding mission, and equally important, helped us to continue to clearly define the characteristics and qualities our community seeks in our next President. We are eager to select a permanent President and remain deeply committed to finding our next leader in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Dan Roy  
Superintendent of Schools

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