



# West Catholic High School

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October 23, 2020

## Letter to WC Community

On September 23, the Governance Board unanimously recommended to Superintendent Dave Faber a change in administrative titles for West Catholic High School. The Board proposed naming current Principal/CEO Cynthia Kneibel as president/CEO and current Vice Principal Tony Fischer as principal. Superintendent Faber approved the recommendation, and the change in titles is effective immediately. All other positions for our faculty and staff remain the same.

The president/principal model had been recommended to both West Catholic and Catholic Central years ago when Catholic School Management helped us do a study of our enrollment management and marketing practices. This model, used by a growing majority of Catholic high schools in the nation, is a powerful leadership model as it recognizes the unique nature of a Catholic school. It is at once a business and an educational institution. We have been working toward making this transition over the last few years through the hiring of staff and the reassignment of job responsibilities. We have now completed the transition, with the last step being the change in titles.

In this model, the president is responsible for running the business of operating a school, starting with defining and focusing on accomplishing the school's mission and vision. He or she is in charge of financial vitality, marketing, admissions, development (fundraising), communications, marketing, dining services and facilities. The president focuses on the external, building resources and relationships that continually propel the school forward. This role reports to the superintendent and works closely with the Governance Board and the business office.

The principal is responsible for educating students in soul, mind and body. He or she attends to internal matters such as faith formation, curriculum, athletics, teacher supervision and development, guidance department activities, and academic support. This role is responsible for providing a dynamic, excellence-driven Catholic education that forms disciples of Christ. The principal reports to the president.

Another important role is the dean of students, who is responsible for student affairs. He or she attends to discipline issues, works with student groups and strives to ensure the success of all students. This role updates the student handbook and enforces it. The dean of students reports to the principal.

For a brief description of the president, principal and dean of student's duties and responsibilities, please click [HERE](#).

The current change of titles more accurately reflects the division of labor that is already taking place at West Catholic. We are impressed and very pleased with the work Tony Fischer has done, especially given the pandemic, with training our teachers and leading on curriculum. Joe Gietzen has seamlessly moved into the role of dean of students. He cares about each of our students and works tirelessly to help them succeed.

We are so excited about all the possibilities of the future under our new structure. We have made great progress and the best is yet to come!

God bless,



Bill Roth  
Chair  
West Catholic Board of Directors



Cynthia Kneibel  
President/CEO  
West Catholic High School