

MIKE HAGSTROM NAMED NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND THE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE FARGO DIOCESE



We are very excited to announce that Mike Hagstrom will serve as the new President of St. John Paul II Catholic Schools and Director of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fargo.

Mr. Hagstrom will replace current school leader, Dr. Michael Smith, and will officially begin his new duties as President on July 1, 2016. Dr. Smith has accepted a school leadership position in El Salvador.

“I am grateful both for Bishop Folda’s ardent support for Catholic Schools and for Dr. Smith’s leadership the past four years,” Mr. Hagstrom said, “and I am looking forward to enhancing further our Catholic schools’ legacy of excellence in a prayerful, collaborative, and energetic spirit.”

Mr. Hagstrom has served as a Religion teacher at Shanley for thirty-one years. He has also been a long-time Chaplain’s Assistant and Student Council Advisor at the school. He earned his B.A. in English and M.A. in Theology from Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota. He and his wife, Shawn, have two children and two grandchildren.

Dr. Smith and Mr. Hagstrom encourage a renewed commitment to pray for Catholic Schools, especially using the following prayer. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for all Catholic Schools.

Prayer for Catholic Schools

Preface: [W]e recognize that our lives and our work are totally dependent upon God. Through prayer, we entrust to God our communities and all we do in service to Catholic schools, as we share Mary's conviction: *"Nothing will be impossible for God"* (Luke 1:37)

Let us pray: *Christ, our Teacher,
You invite Your faithful people to make disciples in Your name and
to announce good news to the poor.
We thank You for the gift of Catholic schools, where*

*The message of Your life, death, and resurrection is proclaimed,
Christian community is experienced,
Service to our brothers and sisters is modeled,
And worship of You is cultivated.*

*Increase our zeal for ensuring that all children and families can benefit from
a high quality Catholic education, and that Catholic schools grow in their
ability to nurture the soul of our nation.*

We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady, Mother of Catholic Schools. Amen.

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