

Dear Marist School Family,

As you read in the <u>letter from Fr. Hindelang and Bill Roche</u>, I will assume a new position at Marist School after the 2022-2023 academic year.

In my 50 years as a Marist priest, the 12 years I have spent serving at Marist School have been particularly meaningful. These last five as Marist's President have provided me with the rewarding opportunity to work together with the school's accomplished faculty and staff to form our students into strong and faithful disciples of Christ who will think, judge, feel, and act like Mary as they lead and serve in today's world.

I consider it a blessing to be given the opportunity to serve in this new position. My primary role will be to serve as the liaison between Marist School and the Society of Mary, ensuring and protecting the school's Catholic and Marist identity. The new President and her/his leadership team, along with the Board of Trustees, will be the ones responsible for doing the actual work of articulating and implementing the day-to-day Marist educational experience of our students in ways that are fresh and inspiring as well as faithful to both our Catholic tradition and the Marist mission in education. This will mean a reduced role for me that is appropriate for one who has reached the esteemed status of an elder in the school community!

I have the utmost confidence in the Board of Trustees and the Search Committee to conduct the important work ahead to find Marist School's next President, and, when the time comes, I will wholeheartedly support the new President as we work together on the school's strategic priority to *Be Unwaveringly Marist*. With the Marist Way program and my new position, Marist School will have strong religious oversight into the future, which promises to keep our school firmly rooted in its Catholicity and Marist values.

This school year, we are concentrating on the Marist theme of *simplicity and humility*. I must say that I am inspired by so many in our school community who partner with the Society of Mary to make sure that the distinctive Marist spirit of our school endures. I am humbled to have the opportunity to continue to be a part of this important work that reflects the vital mission of Marist School.

Mary, Seat of Wisdom, pray for us.

William F. Rowland S.M.

Fr. Bill Rowland, S.M.

President