



ST PIUS X COLLEGE

CHATSWOOD

From the Principal
Mr John Couani

5 May 2022

Dear students, staff and parents of St Pius X College, Chatswood

It is with deep emotion that I write to advise you that I will conclude my time as Principal of St Pius X College, Chatswood at the end of the 2022 school year. I have tendered my resignation to Dr Craig Wattam, Executive Director of EREA who has accepted my decision. Dr Wattam will also write to the St Pius X College community regarding the process for recruiting a new Principal to commence in 2023.

In coming to this decision, I feel enormously grateful for the opportunities of teaching and leading in Catholic education, and it has been a true privilege for the past 12 years to lead St Pius X College as its Principal since 2011. The College community is extraordinary and without doubt the students, staff and parents are exceptional and I will sincerely miss the community that is such an integral part of my life. But I do feel that it is time for me to pass the College to new leadership and for me to retire.

I wish to sincerely thank the College Leadership Team and particularly the Deputy Principal, Mr Mark Casey and Mr Jim Olson who was the College Deputy Principal over my initial years. I deeply thank my Personal Assistant, Mrs Ann Brady. Further I wish to recognise the wonderful staff and thank them for their dedication and commitment to the students and their enduring support of my leadership.

The College Parents and Friends (P & F) are dynamic, and I truly enjoy being with our parent body led by President, Mrs Sarah Gillard, and former Presidents Mr Rob Morton, Mr Paul Hunt, Mrs Braelen Zwart and the many parents who have given so much to the P & F Clubs and Associations. In no small measure, I thank the Old Boys Association led in my early years by Mr David Bullard and presently by Mr Jeff Clarke. My thanks to everyone.

Throughout my leadership at St Pius X College, I have been guided and supported by the original College Board led by Mr John Hunt and then Mr Peter Hughes and in recent years under current Chair of the newly constituted College Council, Mr Brian Populin who has given me tremendous inspiration, advice and encouragement.

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It has been a most rewarding privilege to lead this outstanding Edmund Rice school and it is only fitting for this announcement to be made on the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund, 5 May. I sincerely thank all the Christian Brothers who have served this College since 1937 and left the wonderful legacy that I have endeavoured always to continue. Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) is a truly authentic organisation and I acknowledge the professional and personal support of the EREA Executive Director Dr Craig Wattam, and prior to 2021, Dr Wayne Tinsey along with our Director for Schools, Mr Peter Leuenberger and the National Directors.

During Term 2, EREA will commence recruitment for a new Principal. It is my hope that the timing of my decision provides the opportunity for the best candidate to be appointed to lead this great school.

In closing, I look forward to every moment remaining in 2022 and I am totally committed to ensuring the best Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition that I can lead each day.

Blessed Edmund Rice	Pray for us
St Pius X	Pray for us

Live Jesus in our Hearts *Forever!*



John Couani
PRINCIPAL