



5 May 2022

By Email

Dear Parents and Staff,

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that after twelve years of outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the St Pius X College community, Mr John Couani will conclude his time as Principal of the College at the end of the current school year.

John's contribution to the St Pius X community has been immense. He has not only overseen the transition from the leadership of the Christian Brothers to lay leadership but has also been instrumental in building upon the College's excellent reputation in the local and broader Catholic community. Under his stewardship, College enrolments have never been stronger and John has been passionate in his desire to see all young people experience success in their lives. He is a man of deep faith and has been a wonderful advocate for the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice.

John started his teaching career in 1977 at Marist Sisters' College in Woolwich and also worked at Marist College, Pagewood and Brigidine College in Randwick. In 1987 he became the Assistant Principal at St Brendan's College in Yeppoon in Queensland (a Christian Brothers' school) and later he returned to Sydney to take up the role of Deputy Principal at St Patrick's College Sutherland, another Christian Brothers' school. John then moved into more senior roles in Catholic education; firstly as Principal at De La Salle College in Kingsgrove and later at Holy Spirit College in Lakemba. In 2002, John became a senior Regional Consultant with the Catholic Education Office in Sydney and was the Regional Director in the Eastern Region from 2006-2010. John commenced as Principal of St Pius X in 2011.

As John transitions to retirement in 2023, we wish him and his wife Maree every blessing. He will be sorely missed by members of the St Pius X College community and by his colleagues in Catholic education.

Edmund Rice Education Australia will now embark on the very important task of finding a suitable replacement for John as Principal of the College. In addition to an extensive recruitment process, we will also be consulting with the College community, and I encourage you to participate in that process. Further details about this process will be communicated to you in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, on behalf of all members of Edmund Rice Education Australia, I warmly congratulate John on his twelve years of outstanding service as Principal of St Pius X College and pray that the next stage of his life will be full of much joy and happiness.

With my best wishes,

Craig Wattam

Executive Director

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