



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dan McKenna joins St. Mary Catholic Schools as superintendent

McKenna brings extensive Catholic education leadership experience and vision to the growing school system

NEENAH, Wis. (May 4, 2021) – St. Mary Catholic Schools (SMCS) welcomes Dan McKenna as its new superintendent. A successful national Catholic school leader, McKenna will lead the Catholic school system in Neenah/Menasha, Wis. and serves nearly 1000 students preschool through grade 12.

“We are fortunate to have someone of Dan’s caliber coming aboard to lead the SMCS community. Dan is a transformational Catholic educator and has many successes in his career as a teacher, principal, administrator, headmaster and corporate executive,” SMCS Board of Trustees Chair Steve Pable said. “Dan possesses key characteristics that combine to make him the right person to lead our community forward. We look forward to working with him on continuing the growth and great progress we’ve experienced at SMCS.”

McKenna is a Chicago native and joins SMCS after serving as the president and chief operating officer of the Mulva Cultural Center in De Pere. Prior to the Mulva Cultural Center, Dan served as head of school at St. Gabriel’s Catholic School in Austin, Texas; principal of St. Francis Xavier School in Wilmette, Illinois; and dean of students at Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary High School in Chicago, Illinois.

Under his leadership, these institutions experienced curriculum innovation, technology and infrastructure advancements, enrollment growth, successful capital campaigns and a renewed culture and commitment to excellence. McKenna earned his bachelor’s degree from Marquette University and two master of education degrees from Loyola University.

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St. Mary Catholic Schools ([SMCS](#)) serves more than 900 students in grades Pre3-12 at five campuses – St. Mary Catholic High School and St. Mary Catholic Middle School in the Village of Fox Crossing, Wisconsin, and St. Mary Catholic Elementary Schools (St. Gabriel and St. Margaret Mary in Neenah, Wisconsin, and St. Mary in Menasha, Wisconsin). SMCS is dedicated to preparing and inspiring students to lead meaningful lives, rooted in the teachings of Christ in our Catholic tradition.