



servants of the poor

May 8, 2018

Greetings!

As a valued friend of St. Joan Antida High School (SJA) we wanted to share some important news with you. Late last week Paul Gessner, our Head of School, informed us that he has accepted a new role as Head of School for a private high school located in Athens, Georgia. His last day at SJA will be June 30. We wish Paul well in his future endeavors and we thank him for his dedicated and faithful service over the past six years. Paul came to St. Joan's in 2012 with a specific focus on enhancing the academic rigor and culture of the school and under his leadership St. Joan's has seen significant growth:

- In 2014, St. Joan Antida High School became the first all-girl high school in Wisconsin to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP). In addition the school became the first all-girl high school in the U.S. and only second in the world to offer the IB Career-related Programme (CP), which provides an engineering-focused education.
- Our first IB cohort graduated in May 2017 with seven graduates earning an IB diploma.
- 100% of our students graduate and pursue post-secondary education.
- Our ACT composite score rose by almost two full points last year, cutting the achievement gap in half.
- This school year, for the first time in more than six years, our enrollment stabilized with increased new student enrollment and improved student retention.
- We have an increased presence in the private school market thanks to a multi-channel digital marketing campaign that included a brand new website that garnered more than 51,000 visits in its first year alone.

Please know that the Board of Directors and the Sisters remain deeply committed to the mission of our high school and in ensuring its continued success. We view this leadership transition as a time to pause and prayerfully reflect on these recent achievements and on what we feel is the best way to continue serving our students. With a stronger academic footing and enhanced awareness in the community, we feel St. Joan's can evolve into its next chapter as we continue to serve and educate young women. We are working closely with the Board of Directors and Leadership Team to determine a succession plan as we move forward. We will update you of our plans along the way.

In the meantime if you have any questions or concerns during this transition process, please contact Joel Cencius, our Director of Development and Communications at (414) 274-4710.

Thank you for your continued support of our young women and of this important mission of the Sisters. We could not carry on this work without you. Be assured of our prayers for you, your loved ones, and needs.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sr. Theresa Rozga, SCSJA'.

Sister Theresa Rozga, SCSJA, '77
Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida

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