



APPOINTMENT

Thursday, 29 August 2019

Appointment of Chief Executives for the North Sydney Catholic Education Network and Ashfield Catholic Education Network

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Barbara Watkins and Mr Tim Cleary to the newly created position of Chief Executive at our first two area network of schools.

Leading the North Sydney Catholic Education Network and Ashfield Catholic Education Network from the beginning of next year, Barbara and Tim are both highly experienced educators with the business acumen to ensure Sydney Catholic Schools remain sustainable and financially viable, well into the future, without compromising our strong Catholic values and beliefs.

It is a serendipitous appointment to secure the services of Barbara Watkins as our first ever Chief Executive North Sydney Education Network. Having attended school as a student in the North Sydney area before later serving as Director of Pastoral Services at St Aloysius' College, Barbara understands both the opportunities and shortcomings of the crowded education landscape on the lower north shore.

Most recently, Barbara has been the principal of the prestigious independent Catholic girls' day and boarding school Loreto Normanhurst. During her tenure, Loreto received the highly prized National Award for Quality Schooling and embarked on consecutive and successful strategic plans and a definitive 30 year master plan and redevelopment. This experience will prove invaluable in the delivery of our new landmark education network being developed at Marist North Shore.

With teaching credentials from the Australian Catholic University and Masters degrees in Education from Macquarie University, Barbara has also received business qualifications from world renowned institutions such as Stanford University in California and the London School of Business.

Likewise, we are incredibly fortunate to have Tim Cleary as the first Chief Executive Ashfield Catholic Education Network.

With more than 30 years' experience in Catholic Education at venerable institutions such as St Edmunds, Riverview and Waverley, Tim is currently the President of Australian Schools Rugby Union and the principal at All Saints College in Maitland.

In an increasingly tumultuous world where secular issues continue to challenge the contemporary social paradigm, I can think of no one more qualified than Tim to fortify our proud and historic

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Ashfield schools. During his time as principal at St Augustine's College Brookvale, Tim tripled enrolments to almost 1500 students, increasing staff from 35 full time educators to more than 200.

Undoubtedly an outstanding educator, Tim also brings a wealth of experience to the role, including business qualifications from the world-renowned Harvard University and the Booth School of Business at Chicago University.

These appointments will ensure our ability to continue providing a low fee, world-class and comprehensive Catholic education to every student living in the Sydney Archdiocese. Our new networks will reduce the administrative burden on schools and principals by empowering our local Catholic networks to make local decisions, strengthening our schools' positions as the cornerstones of our local communities.

Under Barbara and Tim's stewardship, we will watch our first two networks at North Sydney and Ashfield closely, to see what lessons or learning approaches can be adopted, as we create additional networks going forward.

Yours Sincerely,



Tony Farley
Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools

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