



## **RYAN WATSON NAMED AS NEW PRINCIPAL FOR ST. FRANCIS XAVIER JESUIT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**PHOENIX** -- Father George V. Wanser, S.J., Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Jesuit Parish and School is proud to announce a new principal for the elementary school. *"I am happy to announce our national search for a new principal has concluded. Through a collaborative process led by John Graham, a search committee representing school and parish families, and our incoming pastor, Father Bob Fambrini, S.J., Ryan Watson was selected after a lengthy process and review of many qualified candidates,"* he said.

The national search began in January after Kim Cavnar, principal for more than 10 years, announced her sabbatical. Cavnar led the school through its revitalization during a capital campaign program, resulting in all new and expanded facilities. Equally significant, Cavnar recently led the efforts for an accreditation process yielding highest marks for the school by the review board. St. Francis Xavier Elementary School is grounded on Jesuit principles of superior education, cultivating excellence in mind, body and spirit sending forth **Kids for Others**.

Watson inherits a school grounded in faith and Ignatian tradition. St. Francis Xavier sees spiritual formation as integrally connected to the academic, social, emotional, and physical development of the whole child. *"I am excited to continue to live out my passion for Catholic education at St. Francis Xavier. My desire to serve as principal is deeply inspired by the school's mission and words of St. Ignatius of Loyola, "Go Forth and Set the World on Fire,"* Waston said.

He continued, *"It is an honor to have the opportunity to impact students as they develop their Catholic faith and learn how to serve others."* For the past 11 years, Watson has served in a variety of administrative and leadership roles within the Diocese of Phoenix.

Father Wanser made the announcement regarding Watson on April 1; Watson will officially take the reins as principal on June 1, 2019.

St. Francis Xavier Elementary School is located adjacent to its iconic parish church at 4715 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix. St. Francis Xavier Jesuit Parish and School thrives with the mission, *We are guided by Ignatian principles in living a faith that does justice through our baptismal call to be Christ for others.* Further details about the school can be found at [www.school.sfxphx.org](http://www.school.sfxphx.org) or on the parish website, [www.sfxphx.org](http://www.sfxphx.org).

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