

27 March 2020

Dear Members of the Marist College Ashgrove community,

Appointment of new Head of Marist College Ashgrove

Following the announcement that Mr Peter McLoughlin will conclude his term as Head of Marist College Ashgrove at the end of 2020, after twelve years of extraordinary and generous service, a process was undertaken by Marist Schools Australia for the recruitment and appointment of the next Head of College. It gives me great pleasure to share with you the news that this process has been successfully concluded and an appointment made. I invite you to join me in congratulating **Mr Michael Newman** who will commence in the role from January 2021.

Michael is an experienced, and highly successful Catholic educator and leader. Currently Michael holds the position of Executive Principal with the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office, and since 2010 has been Principal of St Mary's College, Toowoomba. Prior to that Michael was Principal of St John's School, Roma and Dean of Community and Mission at St Joseph's College, Nudgee. Michael was a Marist Brother for seventeen years serving communities and schools in Burdekin, Hunters Hill in Sydney and Lismore. Michael is now married to Lauren and they have three young children.

Michael holds a Master of Educational Leadership and a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education from the Australian Catholic University as well as a Bachelor of Economics and Diploma of Education from Macquarie University.

As a school student Michael boarded at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, before entering the Marist Novitiate where he received significant formation in Marist life. He has made the pilgrimage to the home built by Saint Marcellin for the early Brothers, *Notre Dame L'Hermitage* in France, and completed a leadership program for experienced Principals at Harvard University in Boston. In 2018 Michael was awarded the inaugural "Excellence in Leadership Award" by the Diocese of Toowoomba and in 2019, received a Fellowship Award from the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL). Michael's personal faith and proven excellence as a contemporary educational leader is clear and provides a firm foundation to undertake the role as the next Head of Marist College Ashgrove.

In making this announcement, I wish to acknowledge in appreciation again, the immense contribution Peter McLoughlin and his wife Paula have made to the College. I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the members of the interview panel for their thoroughness and professionalism throughout the process. The panel was chaired by Mr Mark Elliott, (Regional Director, Marist Schools Australia) and included: Brother Darren Burge fms (Vice Provincial); Dr Sally Towns (Diocesan Director, Lismore Catholic Schools Office); Mrs Helen Sinclair (Chair, MSA Regional Council); Fr Michael Twigg OMI (Rector, Iona College) and Mrs Elizabeth Collier (Parent Representative, Marist College Ashgrove).

We look forward to welcoming Michael and his family to the Marist College Ashgrove community. Let us continue to ask for God's blessing and guidance for the life and work of the Marist College Ashgrove community and may Saint Marcellin pray for us always.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Frank Malloy
National Director