



NATIVITY PREP ACADEMY

Educating Inner City Youth · Higher Standards · Higher Expectations

2755 55th Street, San Diego, California 92105

Phone 619.544.9455

Fax 619.501.1734

www.nativityprep.org

July 10, 2017

Dear Friends and Colleagues of Nativity Prep—

I am writing to share with you that the coming 2017-2018 academic year, through June 2018, will be my last at our wonderful school. After fifteen very rewarding years—as founding principal for eleven, and for the last four as president—I have decided to pursue opportunities in the independent-school world, ideally with a community that shares the same characteristics that make Nativity Prep so special. I have begun working, and will continue to work over the course of the next thirteen months, with a colleague here in San Diego who has years of experience in independent schools to help guide me in the process. Equally important to me, I have the blessing and support of our Board as I pursue this next step.

This was a very difficult decision. After all, Nativity Prep continues to be a gift to me, both personally and professionally. At the same time, I remain conscientious, as always, of the balance between my responsibilities to the students and families at Nativity Prep and to my own family. My wife Alison and I have engaged in a lot of reflection and discernment about next career steps for the two of us together, and we both agree that this is the right time for a change in order to dedicate even more attention to our three children, Andrew (12), Renee (10), and Nate (5), before they themselves are off and running in high school and college.

When I began this journey fifteen years ago, side by side with our courageous Founder, David Rivera, I initially committed to seeing our first class of students with their transition to high school. The achievements and challenges of our first class of graduates in high school encouraged me to delay my departure another four years until they transitioned to college...and another four years again to witness full-circle their success as they completed college. And so here I am, fifteen years hence, deeply proud of the accomplishments of our students thus far in their young lives and confident that their success and the success of future generations of Nativity Prep students will continue to flourish under the leadership of a new president.

When our board promoted me to the role of president four years ago, my primary goal was to position Nativity Prep for continued long-term success—with effective governance, strong finances, comprehensive programming, and a staff and faculty committed to our unique mission. I believe firmly that all of these essential components for success will continue to grow with an excellent board. We have had so many dedicated and talented trustees over the years, and I am confident that our current trustees—with their leadership, experience, and vision—have all the capacity they need to find the next great leader for our beloved Nativity Prep.

I am deeply grateful to so many colleagues and friends and supporters over the past fifteen years—the dedicated teachers and administrative staff I have had the good fortune of working with, our generous partner high schools, our committed volunteers, our gracious benefactors, and our highly talented trustees and advisors. I look forward to seeing you, working with you, and thanking you in person in the course of the coming year.

Sincerely,