



Loyola

HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Members of the Loyola Community,

I write this letter in response to the recent announcement that after nearly three decades of service and leadership, the President of Loyola High School will step down at the end of the 2019-20 academic year.

For the last five years, Mr. Paul Donovan '82 has served as the ninth President of Loyola High School, and was the first layperson to occupy this position in our 125-year history. Paul, who previously served as a teacher and principal, will step down as president on July 31 as he discerns the next phase of his life.

In a 2018 address, Paul said, "Jesuit schools share a common vision of the human person who is at its center. Each person is uniquely created and loved by God and has been given a unique set of gifts and talents for the betterment of others and for the world." Paul is a gifted man, a true man of Loyola, and his gifts have led to the betterment of so many around him; our students, our faculty and staff, and our communities. During his tenure, Paul formed a dynamic and diverse team of professionals who continue to lead the school in its mission. His leadership increased Loyola's capacity to provide bursaries through our Foundation, and his community-focused spirit developed significant community partnerships, most notably with Montreal Community Cares. Paul is a genuine visionary – 'uniquely created and loved by God with his unique set of gifts and talents.'

I want to personally thank Paul for his years of service. I appreciated working with someone with his intellect, knowledge, and experience – his good humour and sense of caring. I learned a great deal from working with Paul, and I will miss our discussions and collaboration. I speak for the entire Board in saying that we are happy that he made this courageous personal decision, and we support him in his future endeavors.

The Board notified The Very Rev. Erik Oland, SJ, Provincial Superior of the Jesuits of Canada, and made him aware of this change in leadership. "I want to thank Paul for his dedication to Loyola. As the first non-Jesuit president he took up the mantle of many fine Jesuits who went before him. I laud the way that he carried on the tradition of leadership that he inherited and gave it his own personal stamp of vitality and creativity. I wish him all the best in his retirement and future ministry," said Fr. Oland.

To ensure an effective search process without disruption to the school's ongoing day-to-day operations, the Board has appointed The Rev. Rob Brennan, SJ, as interim president. Fr. Brennan has been an educator for over 40 years, predominantly serving at Loyola as a teacher and Chaplain. Also, he served as President of Loyola from 2007-2010. With this extensive experience, and his understanding of the school and its faculty and staff, we are confident in Fr. Brennan's ability to lead in collaborative excellence. We thank 'Father' for accepting this responsibility, and we are grateful for his experience and wisdom as he leads the school during this time of transition.

As a next step, the Loyola High School Board of Governors will define and convene a search committee responsible for identifying and recruiting our next president. I ask you to please continue to pray for Loyola in its ongoing mission of being dedicated to providing a transformative student experience, grounded in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition, and the Ignatian vision of educating 'men for others.'

Wishing you a safe and restful summer. Again, Paul, we thank you.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Beaudet', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Beaudet '84
Chair
Loyola High School Board of Governors