



DIOCESE  
*of*  
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA  
*Catholic Schools*

May 18, 2018

Dear Guerin Catholic Community,

Thanks to so many of you (nearly 400) who completed the survey requesting your thoughts and opinions about our next school president. I can assure you that every response was read and reviewed for the profile that has been created for the candidates. The most important quality noted was that of a person of faith and promoter of the mission, someone who understands the charism of the diocesan high school and the important role it plays in the development of young people. You can read more about the qualities of the president when the profile is posted next week. Our thanks to *Purple Ink, LLC* for their work in conducting the focus groups and synthesizing data for the school profile and job posting.

On behalf of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana and the School Governing Board, I would like to give you an update on the search for the next president of Guerin Catholic High School, including the proposed timeline, members of the search committee and the administrative structure during the interim time period.

**The Search Committee** includes a variety of stakeholders from the diocese, school governing board, pastors, alumni and parents. This committee will seek to provide different perspectives in the hiring process and agrees to participate in an unbiased and confidential interview procedure. The Search Committee members are:

*Dr. Peg Dispenzieri* – Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana; Teacher and Administrator for 30+ years; adjunct professor for graduate courses in curriculum and supervision at University of Dayton and Marymount University; Member of St. Elizabeth Seton parish.

*Christine Burrows* – GCHS School Governing Board (Chair); 3 GCHS alum ('11, '13, '16) and 1 current student ('18); High school teacher, alternative school administrator, developed curriculum resources for The Discovery Channel, currently working for Indy-based Bolstra, developing content for marketing, sales and thought-leadership; Member of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parish.

*Fr. Dan Gartland*—Pastor, Holy Spirit at Geist; School Governing Board; Catholic School Educator and Administrator; Pastor and Dean at various parishes in the diocese including St. Lawrence (Lafayette) and Sorrowful Mother (Wheatfield); Adjunct Professor at Martin University and Calumet College; Ordained in 1982.

*Scott Zigmond* - 3 GCHS alum ('11, '13, '15); 1 current student ('20) and 1 future student ('23); Past-president of the Booster Club and currently involved in Dad's Day planning and organization; Vice-President of Sales and Marketing for Performance Services; Member of St. Louis de Montfort parish.



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*John Oblazney* – 1 GCHS alum ('15) and 1 current student ('18). Has served the GCHS Finance Committee for several years; Senior Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer for Herff Jones; Member of St. Elizabeth Seton parish.

*Lauren Bowers* – Alumna of Guerin Catholic High School ('10), Graduated from Hanover College magna cum laude with a B.A. in communications, music and business; currently working as a researcher and analyst for Angie's List; Member of St. Elizabeth Seton parish.

*Eric Davis, J.D.* – Executive Director of Lafayette Catholic School System; Entrepreneur and business owner; Experience in strategic planning, business start-ups, donor and investor relations and staff management; Member of St. Lawrence parish, Lafayette

A president search can take anywhere from 6-9 months and the candidates are often not coming from a school setting, so a start date for the new President is possible at any time during the school year. The proposed **Search Timeline** includes having the position posted by next week and introducing the new president to the community in time for a December 1, 2018 start date. This timeline is, of course, fluid and may progress more or less quickly than anticipated.

*April 2018*

- Initial discussions on timelines, search committee, interim position and search process

*May 2018*

- Focus groups, stakeholder survey, synthesize data into a presidential profile, post job, initial meeting of search committee

*June-July 2018*

- Collect resumes, Search committee reviews resumes; prepares for interviews

*August 2018*

- Phone interviews

*September 2018*

- Face-to-Face interviews, reference checks

*October-November 2018*

- Second interviews, SGB recommends final candidate(s) to Bishop Doherty
- Introduce new president to Guerin Catholic community

*December 2018*

- Begin president position

Finally, there has been much discussion about the **Administrative Structure** of the high school for the fall of 2018 once Deacon Paul retires on June 30. Guerin Catholic is blessed with several experienced and licensed administrators, faithful men and women



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who are dedicated to the school and very capable of administering on a daily basis. In addition, the faculty and staff are top-notch, professional and passionate about Guerin Catholic.

Because of this, a leadership team of *Mr. James McNeany* (Principal), *Mrs. Karla Schlichte* (VP of Finance and Operations) and *Mr. David Rieck* (VP of Advancement) will serve the school during the interim period. In addition, Mr. Rieck will seek to hire an interim consultant to work with him in the Advancement office. *Dr. Peg Dispenzieri* (Superintendent) and *Mr. Andrew Kremer* (Associate Superintendent) will be regularly available for support and consultation.

The presidential profile and job posting will be available on the Guerin Catholic website by the end of next week. Please share the posting with anyone whom you feel would be a great candidate for President of Guerin Catholic High School.

We also ask you to keep the school and the search process in your prayers. As anyone who has spent time at Guerin Catholic knows, the school is very blessed through the intercession of St. Theodore Guerin and filled with the gifts of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Please pray that the right person answers the nudge to submit an application and that those involved in the search process keep an open mind and heart as they review each candidate.

When school resumes in August, we will update you on the progress over the summer months. Have a safe and restful summer break!

Blessings,

Dr. Peg Dispenzieri  
Superintendent  
Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

Mrs. Christine Burrows  
School Governing Board, Chair