



St. John the Evangelist Church

June 8, 2022

Dear St. John the Evangelist School and Parish Community,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. As Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, I feel it is very important to always keep you informed as we work together to provide our children with the best education possible. I am pleased to announce that Ms. Shindana Crawford has accepted the position of Principal for St. John the Evangelist School. She will become our new Principal on July 1, 2022. There will be an opportunity for everyone to meet Ms. Crawford soon.

Ms. Crawford is a skilled leader with 25 years of experience in education and business. Ms. Crawford holds an Associate Degree in Paralegal Studies from Schenectady County Community College. A Bachelor's Degree from Berklee College of Music in Boston and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Loyola University Maryland. She holds an Administrator Advanced Professional Certificate from the State of Maryland with Special Education credits. Ms. Crawford comes to us from Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School in Takoma Park, where she serves as Assistant Principal for Student Life. Before her time at Don Bosco, Ms. Crawford was at Holy Redeemer School (HRS) in College Park. During her time at HRS from 2015-2021, Ms. Crawford held the positions of Vice Principal as well as Music and Technology Teacher. Ms. Crawford also spent 15 years in radio as an on-air talent with shows in Upstate New York, Washington DC, and Las Vegas, where she has been recognized for achieving excellence.

When asked why she wanted to serve our Church as Principal of a Catholic school Ms. Crawford stated, "I was Baptized into the Catholic faith while at HRS. I felt so strongly about the importance of leading by example, I chose to do it with students and staff present. To share my love for Jesus and belief in the power of education at the same time is the perfect working scenario. Ultimately, my goal is to be an agent of meaningful growth and change in the lives of teachers and students. It will be an ongoing effort the duration of my career as an educator. Holding on to a strong belief in faith, I look forward to continuing to serve the St. John the Evangelist community."

I am very grateful for the time and assistance the Principal Search Committee dedicated to this effort and fully supported their selection of finalists. Please know, the ultimate hiring decision rested with Superintendent Branaman and me. I also want to thank all of you that completed the online survey that was designed for the Principal Search Committee to gather the community's input. This information, from all of you who responded, was invaluable.

I have every confidence and expectation that our school community is ready to move forward as we approach the new school year. I am grateful for your support and look forward to all of you supporting the leadership of Ms. Crawford. If you have any questions, please let me know and may God's blessings be with you and your family.

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Joseph Calis, V.F.