



## Saint Saviour Catholic Academy

Dear Families, Faculty, Staff, Alumni, Parishioners, and Friends of SSCA,

You all have been very patient, and the uncertainty of this year has been very trying. It gives us great pleasure to be able to share some good news during this last week of school!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Search Committee, and the Board of Members, I am pleased to announce the hire of Dean J. Fusto, as SSCA's inaugural President, effective July 2024.

Mr. Fusto, a product of K-12 Catholic education, has dedicated his storied career to education—he has served at almost every level, from his early teaching, coaching, and dormitory head days, to his many administrative roles. He has served as Director for Development, a Head of School, a President, and most recently, a specially created role of Executive Head of School at the School of the Blessed Sacrament in Manhattan, overseeing two different campuses. Bilingual in both Spanish and English, he has created outreach programs in the Dominican Republic and lead delegations to St. Lucia, Cote d'Ivoire, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Mr. Fusto, following his strong belief in the value of education, has continually sought to fill out his own educational resume with advanced degrees, certificates, and educational fellowships from some of our most esteemed educational institutions, including Columbia University, Cornell University, and Harvard University.

Mr. Fusto was inspired by SSCA because he has a heart for small schools that are mission driven. He wants to feel connected to every member of the community. For those of us who were able to spend some one-on-one time with Dean while he was on campus in February, we experienced his passion to connect. He was deeply inspired by our “small school with a big heart” and his days on campus were filled with experiences of our beating heart in action.

Mr. Fusto is eager to immerse himself in the daily life of our school, its community, and its history, and wants to hear our stories. This was abundantly clear by his engagement with our team before the Diocese made things final. Mr. Fusto is “all in”, passionate and deeply interested—and ready—to share the stories of our beloved SSCA with those around us.

SSCA is a family—a characteristic of our school that Dean Fusto saw in action and embraces. While we are losing the regular presence of two beloved family members, we are gaining another great one. Please welcome Dean Fusto when you can, and make sure to remind Ms. Walsh and Ms. Sgro how grateful we are for their service.

We also wish to thank the members of our Search Committee and all of you in our community who participated in the visits. It has been a journey and we couldn't have done it without you.

Sincerely yours,

Lenae Guarna  
Chair of the Board

Pam Hamingson  
Vice Chair of the Board  
Search Comm. Co-Chair

Veracelle Vega-Hansen  
Trustee  
Search Comm. Co-Chair

**Small School, Big Heart**

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