

Dear Members of the Eastside Catholic Community,

I am honored to be named the next President of Eastside Catholic School and look forward to joining you in November.

I have long admired the reputation Eastside Catholic has built for academic excellence, genuine community, and a commitment to forming young people who can integrate faith and reason, pursue excellence with purpose, and grow through relationships grounded in compassion and respect. That commitment is evident across the Touchstones, campus ministry, the Options Program, athletics, and the arts. It is a community that takes seriously what it means to recognize the dignity of every student and has built programs that reflect that conviction.

I am deeply grateful to the Board of Trustees and to President Gil Picciotto for the leadership that has brought Eastside Catholic to this moment. Because of that work, the school stands at a moment of real opportunity—one that calls for both fidelity to mission and a clear focus on how that mission meets the needs of the students it serves and prepares them well for the future.

My approach to leadership begins with listening and is anchored in a commitment to keeping mission and students at the center of every decision. I look forward to becoming part of this community and learning its strengths, aspirations, and the work we will take on together. I bring a deep belief in Catholic education as a formative experience, a commitment to translating vision into action, and nineteen years of experience building teams and cultures in which students and adults alike are challenged to do their best work.

My family and I are eager to get to know this community—its people, its traditions, and the everyday moments that give it life. I look forward to meeting each of you in the months ahead.

In service,

Michael Dougherty