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Kathryn Purcell Named Next President of Saint Joseph Academy
Kathryn Purcell Assumes New Position Beginning 2020-2021 School Year

Cleveland – February 19, 2020 – The Saint Joseph Academy Board of Directors today announced Kathryn Purcell as its next President, beginning the 2020-2021 academic year. In her new role, Purcell will lead Saint Joseph Academy forward as it begins its next chapter. She is succeeding Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis, the school’s first president, who will retire at the end of June 2020.

Purcell is more than familiar with strong leadership in an all-girls educational environment. She joins Saint Joseph Academy after a 24-year tenure at Laurel School, most recently as the Associate Head of School. Prior to that position, Purcell served in various leadership, administrative, teaching and coaching roles.



As a senior administrator at Laurel School, Purcell has a crucial role in both the daily operations and the strategic vision of the school. She was central in the creation, communication and execution of their five-year roadmap. For her entire career, she has been involved at both the administrative and faculty levels, with the creation of transformative programs for students along with designing systems to support those programs.

“In addition to the strong and innovative academic program, Saint Joseph Academy’s commitment to faith, service, character development and community is particularly compelling to me. We want young women to feel empowered, confident and comfortable with people like and unlike themselves. We want them to ask questions and to stand up for what they believe. The Saint Joseph Academy community is organized to help deliver this mission in a faith-filled setting, and I feel inspired to serve as its new leader,” shared Purcell.

Board of Directors Chair K. Kelly Hancock offered, “With gratitude to Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis for her fourteen years of strong leadership, we warmly welcome Kathryn Purcell and look forward to the many contributions she will bring to Saint Joseph Academy in her role as the next president.”

Purcell holds a master of arts in education from Ursuline College and a bachelor degree from John Carroll University. She and her family are parishioners at the Church of the Gesu.

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About Saint Joseph Academy

Now in its 130th year, Saint Joseph Academy is the only all-girls Catholic high school in the City of Cleveland. With a current enrollment of 700 young women, Saint Joseph Academy is rooted in the spirituality of the Congregation of St. Joseph and works to foster unifying relationships with God and all creation. Each young

woman is empowered to achieve academic excellence, and inspired to a life of compassionate leadership and service in a global society. Saint Joseph Academy is located at 3470 Rocky River Drive in Cleveland. For more information, visit <http://www.sja1890.org> or call 216.251.6788.