



Office of the Founder and Headmaster

March 21, 2013

Dear Parents, Families, and Friends of John Paul the Great Academy:

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI remarked in his final public remarks last month, *“There have also been moments in which the waters were turbulent and the wind contrary, as throughout the history of the church, and the Lord seemed to be asleep. But I have always known that the Lord is in that boat and that the boat of the church is not mine, it is not ours, but it is his and he does not let it sink.”* Just as the Church belongs, first and foremost to God, our own school is God’s school—not any one person’s.

It is in that spirit that I write to you today, in order to announce that I have been selected as the new president of Wyoming Catholic College, effective this June, and will therefore be leaving the Academy. The decision was a difficult one, as I explain below, but two factors—first, the appeal of leading a Catholic, liberal arts college with a robust outdoor leadership program; and second, the successful search for a new headmaster who can carry the Academy forward—made my decision easier.

I will leave, however, with mixed emotions: naturally, I am somber about the prospect of leaving a school that I started, and that has been such a blessing to me and to my family, but I am also excited by the prospect of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to lead such a vibrant, outstanding college. As many of you know, I am a higher-education guy who has done his best to operate as a secondary school leader, so most of all, I am excited for the Academy and for all our students that their new headmaster will be someone who is a highly-regarded expert in secondary schools.

Our new president and headmaster is Mr. Peter Fletcher, who for the last seven years has served as assistant principal at St. Michael the Archangel High School in Baton Rouge. With two Master’s degrees, and a very extensive training in classical education, Peter brings both the administrative experience and educational background necessary for success. Though his professional achievements have earned him accolades nationwide, his personal story, which you can read more about on our [website](#), is compelling. You will love him, as our faculty, who were formally introduced to him earlier this week, already have. Mr. Fletcher will keep all

programs and people in place, and build upon the solid foundation that the sacrifices of so many have built.

Just as I have a range of emotions about this transition, I am sure that each of you will, too. As you process the news, I can assure you of the following: the state of our school has never been stronger; our commitment to teaching the Faith first will not waver, and will probably be enhanced; the classical nature of our curriculum will no doubt be enhanced; and, for what it's worth, I am not abandoning the project, as I will be around as frequently as my schedule allows, available to Mr. Fletcher as he deems fit. (But you should know that I also will not be hovering over him, either, for he is an extraordinary leader, and deserves his own space to show you how, even with our identical worldviews, his leadership and administrative style is perfect for the next phase of the school.)

On a personal level, you should know that the biggest sacrifice that my wife Michelle and I are making is taking our children out of this exceptional school. It has been a perfect place for them—and one that is not available to us in Wyoming. We will also miss the hundreds of friends we have made, as well as miss those opportunities to get to know our new families.

And yet the spiritual calling is crystal-clear – as clear, in fact, as it was to open the school. So we must trust it. And I ask you to do the same, remaining committed to this most important project, and getting to know Mr. Fletcher.

To facilitate that, Peter will be here often in April and May, working closely with me and our administrative team so that the transition is very smooth. You will have the opportunity to meet him then, and, in particular, at our quarterly parents' meeting on Wednesday, April 17th. We are also planning a schoolwide crawfish boil on Friday, May 10, which will give you the opportunity to interact with Peter and his wife, Christie, in a social setting.

In the meantime, may the Lord continue to bless our school, its families, its students, and its friends. Leading the Academy has been a tremendous blessing and honor, and I look forward to advancing its cause, albeit in a different role, for many years to come.

Sincerely yours in Him,

Kevin D. Roberts, Ph.D.
President and Headmaster

P. S. Wyoming Catholic College would be a most suitable place for many of our graduates. I encourage you to research it, [watch this video](#), and be in touch with me at any point in the future, if you are interested in it. Don't be a stranger.