



Benilde-St. Margaret's

A Catholic, college preparatory school, grades 7 - 12

April 12, 2023

Dear members of the BSM community:

On behalf of the Benilde-St. Margaret's Board of Directors, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Danielle Palkert Hermanny '03 as the new president of Benilde-St. Margaret's School. The appointment is effective Monday, May 15, 2023.

Danielle's experience as a strategic educational leader is valuable for leading the BSM community into the future. The Presidential Search Committee was impressed with Danielle's depth of experience and passion for education. As an alum of Benilde-St. Margaret's, Danielle understands what it means to be a Red Knight and she is familiar with our shared history of St. Margaret's Academy, Benilde High School, and Benilde-St. Margaret's commitment to excellence in Catholic education and our charisms.

Danielle comes to BSM from the University of St. Thomas where she has served the University community since 2016, most recently as the associate vice president for Equity Compliance & Title IX Coordinator and teaching a course for first-year students. She previously worked in the Office of the President as General Counsel and special assistant to the president, and was an adjunct instructor of theology at the University of Portland, Portland, OR. Hermanny earned her B.A. degree in English and a minor in Theology from the University of Notre Dame and graduated *cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame's Law School.

The BSM Board of Directors is extremely grateful to all of you for your prayers and the support offered during this search process. We also offer our sincere thanks to the team at Partners in Mission who listened to understand our needs and provided insights during the process to identify the best candidate from a nation-wide talent pool.

We are especially grateful to Meghan Lind DesLauriers '99 who has been an invaluable partner and leader, serving as interim president for Benilde-St. Margaret's since July 2022. Meghan's grace and compassionate leadership highlight the qualities we desire for every Red Knight, and she has ensured our school has remained academically strong, fiscally sound, and well-positioned for Danielle as she assumes the presidency of Benilde-St. Margaret's.

Meghan will remain on staff until June 9, ensuring a smooth transition for Danielle and the BSM community, leading baccalaureate events and commencement exercises for Benilde-St. Margaret's 49th graduating class on Friday, June 2, 2023.

BSM is blessed to have Danielle accept the responsibilities to serve as our new president. We have faith that God will bless her and us in the weeks and years to come, so that we can continue to provide the best Catholic education for every student who joins our community. Please join us in welcoming Danielle back to BSM.

Sincerely,

Laura Portz, *Chair, BSM Board of Directors*
Biz McShane Murphy '96, *Search Committee Lead*