

**November 15, 2021**

Dear Friends of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School,

Regular readers of this newsletter may remember that 14 months ago I wrote that, after 10 years in the role, I planned to step down as President of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School.

Our Board of Trustees formed an excellent search committee, and they went about their business carefully, diligently and without compromise. And now, at last, we are proud and pleased to announce that, on March 1, 2022, Tom Shoemaker will become the second President of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School.

Our Search Committee didn't have to go far to find Tom. He is the current President of TD Bank's Pennsylvania Market. He is very well known in the Philadelphia business and philanthropic communities. He has been a friend of Cristo Rey since our beginnings when he welcomed Cristo Rey students into TD Bank as Work-Study interns. Tom and TD Bank helped us finance the construction of our new campus, and they helped us launch our Financial Literacy curriculum. He has been an active member of our Board of Trustees since 2019.



I'm thrilled to pass the leadership of this fine school to Tom. He is committed to our mission. He understands that the role of President is a calling, and not a job. He genuinely believes in the potential of our students, and he knows that they will become the future leaders that Philadelphia needs.

I will miss the everyday adventures of Cristo Rey, but I will never lose interest. Of course, I am proud of what Cristo Rey has become, but I am even more excited by what lies ahead for Tom and for our entire community.

This is not my last newsletter. You're stuck with me until March 1!

Onward!

Sincerely,

**John McConnell**  
Founder and President

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