January 19, 2018

Dear Friends of Nativity Prep Academy,

Nativity Prep Academy’s Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Gilbert Brady as the school’s next president, effective July 1, 2018. Dr. Brady will assume leadership of Nativity Prep Academy following the exemplary 16-year tenure of Brendan Sullivan.

Dr. Brady, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, George Washington University (Ph.D.), and Santa Clara University (M.Ed.), brings exceptional leadership qualities to Nativity Prep, San Diego’s only private, all-scholarship school. His commitment to service goes hand in hand with our mission to serve students from low-income families who will be the first in their families to graduate from college.

Since 2001, under Brendan’s leadership, Nativity Prep has evolved from serving 20 middle school students to serving more than 230 students annually through its comprehensive 11-year educational model, with 65 students in its middle school and more than 170 of its graduates in high school and college. Brendan decided in June of this past year to finish his term as president in June of 2018 in order to pursue further opportunities in the world of independent and Catholic school leadership.

Dr. Brady is a person of faith and a collaborative leader who has a proven record of success working with students, staff, faculty, and parents in a private-school setting. He has served as a junior high school math teacher for 7th and 8th grade students, a self-study coordinator during the school’s accreditation process, and a principal for a K-6 program for five years. He left his position as principal in order to pursue his doctorate in executive leadership from George Washington University, which he received in February 2013. During this time, Dr. Brady started Relationship Impact, a consulting company focused on executive team leadership development, and has worked with executive teams in various industries to include education, government, intercollegiate athletics, financial services, and health care.

Dr. Brady’s appointment is the culmination of an extensive national search process supported by Carney, Sandoe & Associates, and involved representation from more than 300 individuals within the Nativity Prep community over the past six months, including its parents, students, faculty, administration, alumni, donors, and trustees.

Beginning in July 2017, the Board of Trustees Search Committee, in partnership with Mr. Bob Regan, lead consultant for Catholic Schools Practice at Carney, Sandoe &
Associates, worked to identify an initial candidate pool of ten highly qualified candidates from across the U.S. and eventually selected and conducted on-campus interviews for its top three finalists. A priority for the search committee was to create an inclusive process that would attract excellent candidates and promote the active participation of all constituent groups within Nativity Prep.

We were reassured by the enthusiastic feedback we received from all who met Gil. We were tremendously impressed with his qualifications and accomplishments. All members of our search committee as well as the full board felt he was a perfect fit to be our next President.

“I am honored to become part of this extraordinary community in service to this profound mission,” said Dr. Brady. “I have always known I would return to educational leadership, and this opportunity with Nativity Prep is really a dream come true. The school has been exceptionally well led for the past 16 years; it is a privilege to take the baton from Brendan and continue the meaningful work being done by this community. Nativity Prep will continue to explore new and innovative ways to serve, and I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this effort.”

Dr. Brady will begin his tenure as president of Nativity Prep with a wealth of opportunity to expand and strengthen the impact of the school’s mission for current and future generations of Nativity Prep students and graduates. Among the many exciting opportunities that lie ahead, expanding enrollment in the middle school to serve more hardworking students remains a primary focus for the next president.

With a concerted effort on the part of our trustees, benefactors, and partners to make a Nativity Prep education available to more students from middle school through high school to college—and with the solid foundation in place to do so—we are ready to move boldly into the next stage of growth, with a heartfelt belief shared by all that the work we do is transforming the lives of the young men and women in our care and genuinely changing for the better the broader Southeast San Diego community.

Sincerely,

Rod Powers
Chair of the Board of Trustees