



Diocese of Armidale

Sede Vacante

9th October, 2023

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Ms Regina Menz as the Director of Schools for Armidale Catholic Schools. Ms. Menz will commence the position on the 19th January 2024.

This appointment comes following a national recruitment campaign, facilitated by executive search firm Korn Ferry, which attracted high quality applicants from all over Australia.

Ms Menz is well known within the Diocese. She is a long-term parishioner of Saints Mary & Joseph Cathedral Parish, Armidale. Her involvement within the parish includes being a reader at Sunday Mass, an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and a Parish Pastoral Council member. Regina is passionate about her faith and the importance of this to all aspects of her life.

Ms Menz's experience in education commenced as a science teacher at Gundagai High School in 1990; and then at Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak; Kormilda College, Darwin; and Wagga Wagga High School. Within the Diocese she taught at O'Connor Catholic College for nearly 11 years before moving to the role of Education Officer Curriculum 7-12 in the Catholic Schools Office. In 2017 she returned to O'Connor Catholic College as the Principal. Since January 2022, Regina has been a School Performance Leader and Mission & Learning Team Leader in the Catholic Schools Office.

In addition to a Bachelor of Education Ms Menz holds a Master of Education (Aboriginal Education); Graduate Certificate of Arts Theology/Theological Studies and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is currently completing a Master of Leadership and Theology. Regina's commitment to lifelong learning is demonstrated by her own ongoing professional development.

Ms Menz's passionate commitment to Catholic education and the Diocese is well-known, and she brings a wealth of Diocesan knowledge and extensive connections within the Diocese to her new role. She has a strong reputation for innovation, educational excellence, and system transformation. She also has an infectious enthusiasm for ensuring that all students achieve their best educational outcomes. She is keenly aware that each student is an individual with personal needs, challenges, motivators, and capacity to be a success. Ms Menz is clearly energized being an educator.

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Ms Menz impressed the Armidale Catholic Schools Board with her personal witness to her faith, her professional competence, and her vision for vibrant and sustainable Catholic education within the Diocese. She demonstrates a preference for adaptive leadership and building relationships to support continuous improvement at all levels of education in the Diocese. She is committed to building collaborative connections between parish and school communities.

Ms. Menz succeeds Mr. Chris Smyth, who has led in this capacity since 2015, leaving behind a remarkable and enduring legacy in teaching and learning within Diocesan schools. It is a testament to his leadership, that his successor has come from within the Diocese. Whilst bidding farewell to Mr. Smyth is tinged with sadness, we express our deep appreciation for his outstanding work over the past eight years.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Ms Menz. We eagerly anticipate working alongside her in this new capacity and have full confidence in her ability to seamlessly assume the responsibilities of this role and to articulate the vision of Catholic education within the Diocese.

Monsignor Edward Wilkes
Diocesan Administrator

Mr Peter Maher
Chair, Armidale Catholic Schools Board