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For Immediate Release

INDIANAPOLIS—September 6, 2019

Dr. Joseph Hollowell, president of Roncalli High School, announces retirement after 41 years

Dr. Joseph D. Hollowell, president of Roncalli High School, announced today that he will be retiring at the end of the school year in unison with the 50th birthday celebration of Roncalli.

Hollowell has held many positions during his 41-year tenure including chemistry teacher, football and baseball coach, dean of students, principal (five years) and president. He has served as the first and only president of the school for the past 25 years.

“The steadfast leadership of Dr. Hollowell has positively impacted tens of thousands of lives,” said Gina Kuntz Fleming, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. “His deep desire to serve God and His people is evident in all he does. We are most grateful for Dr. Hollowell’s service and leadership and thank him for growing Roncalli High School into such a wonderful home where students are educated and formed in the Catholic faith.”

Under Hollowell’s leadership, the campus has expanded from 14 to 45 acres to meet the growing enrollment at the school, which is now the largest private school in Indiana. During his time as principal, Roncalli established in 1993 the nationally recognized STARS program (Students That Are Ready for Success) to address the needs of students with learning and physical challenges. As president, Hollowell has led the charge to raise over \$35 million, primarily for capital improvement additions to the school and campus, including a chapel, administrative wing, Fine Arts Center, auxiliary gym and the addition of 30 classrooms. Renovations to the Media Center, classrooms, stadium, all athletic fields and courts, blockhouse, wrestling room and weight room have also been a hallmark during Hollowell’s leadership. Additionally, a new 25,000-square-foot gymnasium will be opening soon.

Not only does Hollowell invest significantly in the operational vitality of Roncalli High School, but he finds ways to stay connected to students, families and the greater Catholic community. As recently as this past summer, Hollowell participated in summer field studies with dozens of students and staff, and he has served as a consultant for Catholic School Management (now Christian Brothers Services) to share his gifts more broadly.



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“Dr. Hollowell’s dedication and commitment towards the growth, success and long-term viability of Roncalli is unparalleled,” said Roncalli Board Chair Dr. Jeff Amodeo. “On behalf of the board of directors, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Hollowell for his lifetime commitment, not only to Roncalli, but also to furthering Catholic education. We offer prayers and best wishes as he prepares for the next phase in his life.”

Hollowell and his wife, Diane, have 11 children and 13 grandchildren and are parishioners at Nativity Catholic Church. He is a graduate of Scecina Memorial High School and Butler University, and he earned his Doctorate of Education from Creighton University in 2016.

Roncalli High School and the Office of Catholic Schools will begin the search for a new president of Roncalli High School next week.

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Photo: Dr. Joseph Hollowell