

30 October 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your continued support of the College for the education of your boys in the Edmund Rice tradition.

COVID-19 has made 2020 a more challenging year than any of us could have anticipated at the start. We thank the Principal, Mr John Couani, and the College Staff for the way they placed the safety of the boys at the fore as well as their unwavering dedication to the education of the boys during the year, from the preparation and delivery of on-line schooling to the additional care and attention to the boys educational, health and spiritual needs when they returned to College. We also thank the boys and you, their Parents and Guardians, for the many ways in which you have supported each other and the College during this, the most difficult of years.

We wish the Year 12 boys all the best for the HSC exams and their future as they leave the College and look forward to them making a positive difference in our world.

The College Board works collaboratively with the Principal and Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) to provide quality stewardship aimed at offering the best possible learning environment for the students at the College. It is responsible for governance of Mission & Vision, Strategic Planning & Review, Policy, Finance & Risk Management as well as support to the Principal and the College Leadership Team.

The College is very dependent on Commonwealth and State Government funding to help keep fees affordable. The outcome of the Commonwealth Government's decision in 2017 has resulted in an ongoing decline in Government funding for our College in real terms.

Given the expected cut to Government's funding in 2021, and taking into account the College's increasing educational costs, the Board has approved a tuition fee increase of 5.7% for a balanced 2021 College budget. The Board conducted extensive deliberations regarding the 2021 budget, particularly considering the impact of COVID-19 on the College Community while endeavouring to ensure the tuition fees remain as affordable as the College can sustain.

I would like to sincerely thank my fellow Board and Committee members, EREA and the College community who have supported me as Board Chair. I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to Therese Maclaine, who is retiring from the Board at the end of this year, for her valuable contribution to the Board over many years.

On behalf of the Board, I wish you and your families all the very best for the remainder of 2020, a safe and holy Christmas and for a fulfilling 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Populin,

Board Chair

COLLEGE • 35 Anderson Street, Chatswood NSW 2067 P(02) 9411 4733 F(02) 9413 1860 TREACY COMPLEX • Dreadnought Road, Oxford Falls NSW 2100 P(02) 9451 7375 E admin@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au www.spx.nsw.edu.au