



4 September 2020

To All Principals, Staff and School Communities

I am writing to advise that I have decided that a Catholic Education Council (CEC) be established with the authority to make decisions for Catholic Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. This body will assist me to fulfil my role, responsibilities and mission regarding the ministry of Catholic Education. It will steward the mission of Catholic education by providing oversight, insight and foresight.

In accord with its Constitution, the Catholic Education Council will be a decision-making body and, in stipulated areas, provide advice and recommendations to the Bishop of Wagga Wagga. This body is to ensure confidence and transparency as we provide the very best possible Catholic education for our students and families.

The Catholic Education Council will take responsibility for the governance of CEDWW from the Interim Management Committee on our Lady's birthday, Tuesday September 8th. I have appointed Philomena (Phil) Billington as Chair in the inaugural phase. Phil brings strong faith commitment and the significant senior experience of having been a Director of Catholic Education who worked closely with a Governing Body and a School leader. She is currently the Deputy President of the Council of Edmund Rice Education Australia which operates 55 schools across Australia and the inaugural Chair of the National Committee for Religious Institute and Ministerial PJP School Authorities Australia.

Phil will oversee the establishment of the Council in the latter part of 2020. It is anticipated that nominations for non ex-officio members will proceed in February. The CEC will provide quarterly communication updates to parish and school communities across the Diocese.

I look forward to the growth and development of the CEC as it stewards Catholic education and works with CEDWW and schools to provide the best education for our young people.

Yours in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI  
Bishop of Wagga Wagga

**Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI, Bishop of Wagga Wagga**

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