



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Saint Albert Catholic School Announces New President, Dr. Anne M. Rohling**

September 25, 2020, Council Bluffs, IA — Saint Albert Catholic School, a birth - 12th grade academic system in the Diocese of Des Moines, is pleased to announce Anne M. Rohling is its new school president. Rohling earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, a Master of Business Administration degree from Creighton University and Juris Doctorate from Creighton University School of Law. Rohling's appointment makes her the first female president in the school's history.

As the unanimous choice for school president, she brings a wealth of business and legal acumen to the role having guided strategic initiatives and negotiated multi-million dollar contracts for a number of Fortune 500 companies. After her time in corporate America, Rohling opened an independent legal practice in Council Bluffs where she practiced patent law and advocated on behalf of the elderly. Her tenure as a well-respected member of the American Bar Association has afforded her legal experience in prosecution, business operations, regulatory compliance and litigation management. All skills Rohling plans to use to ensure the operational vitality of Saint Albert Catholic School.

“Anne Rohling is steeped in the experience of Catholic education in her own life path, and in her own commitment to parish religious education and voluntary involvement in communal and corporate outreach,” said Bishop William M. Joensen. “She is a natural leader anointed by the Spirit in all she does; I believe she is moved by the Spirit to embrace this great personal and professional sacrifice by making this momentous transition at this point in her career on behalf of Saint Albert Catholic School, and I am profoundly grateful.”

For Rohling, this role is personal. She is an alumna of Saint Albert Catholic School and the product of a lifetime of Catholic education. “I am one of the many successful products of Catholic education. My father passed away when the oldest of my six siblings was ten-years-old and the youngest was one-years-old,” recalled Rohling. “My mother sacrificed to provide all of her children with a Catholic education, each one attended parish schools and graduated from Saint Albert High School. This model of sacrifice and the experiences Saint Albert afforded me, opened my eyes to the beauty of Catholic education and the profound desire to support and promote Catholic education in my community.”



Her experience in nonprofit management and advancement stems from her work as a community leader and volunteer over the past 20 years. Rohling has served on non-profit boards including Saint Albert Catholic School and the Council Bluffs Public Library. A dedicated member of St. Peter Parish, Rohling has guided a number of fundraising efforts on behalf of the church and currently serves as its director of religious education.

“After a very thorough search for the president’s position, Saint Albert is fortunate to welcome back to the school one of their own,” said Joe Narmi, school board president. “Anne brings many years of experience in the business world, has very deep roots in the Council Bluffs and Southwest Iowa communities, and has an abundant enthusiasm and passion for Saint Albert and Catholic education.”

“I am excited to partner with Anne as the new president of Saint Albert Catholic School,” shared Jeff Lenz, Saint Albert Foundation president. “Anne is a tremendous addition to the strong and diverse leadership at Saint Albert. Her unique education and business background will make an outstanding contribution to our Saint Albert family, leading as our first female president. The Saint Albert Foundation board looks forward to working with Anne to make a dramatic and positive impact within our community.”

Rohling will assume her role as President of Saint Albert Catholic School on November 2, 2020. ***A press conference will be held Wednesday, October 7 at 11 a.m. at Saint Albert Catholic School. All members of the local media are invited to attend this event to meet Rohling and learn more about her vision for Council Bluffs' only birth-12th grade academic institution and Catholic school.*** Bishop William M. Joensen, Superintendent Donna Bishop and the Saint Albert leadership team will also be in attendance. COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place to help ensure the health of attendees and facial coverings are required.

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools includes 16 schools in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa. Catholic schools in the Des Moines Diocese build Christ-centered, collaborative, inclusive partnerships with parents, students, and parishes to provide innovative academic excellence and inspirational faith formation for students.

To learn more about the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools, visit [www.dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools/](http://www.dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools/). To learn more about Saint Albert Catholic School, visit [www.saintalbertschools.org](http://www.saintalbertschools.org).

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