



## MEDIA ADVISORY Diocese of Laredo

DATE: June 28, 2017

TO: All Media

FROM: Bennett McBride  
Director of Communications  
956-722-4167

RE: Appointment of Principal and Assistant Principal at St. Augustine Elementary and Middle School

His Excellency, the Most Reverend James A. Tamayo, D.D., is proud to announce the appointment of Mrs. Barbra Zurita as the new Principal of St. Augustine Elementary/Middle School and Sister Christina Conroy as the new Assistant Principal for the upcoming 2017-2018 academic year.

“We are blessed to have two intelligent and highly qualified women take the reins during this transitional period. I am confident that both Mrs. Zurita and Sister Christina will excel at their positions. As always, the students’ education, well-being and faith formation remain the top priorities,” Tamayo stated.

Mrs. Zurita will replace Mr. Matthew Pici, who will continue serving the diocese in a different capacity as well as being an integral part of our diocesan family.

Both Mrs. Zurita and Sister Christina have been a part of the St. Augustine community for many years. Prior to her appointment as principal, Mrs. Zurita worked at St. Augustine as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher for 2 years and an additional 9 years as a teacher for both Laredo Independent School District and United Independent School District schools. Additionally, Sister Christina previously served as religion teacher and campus minister at St. Augustine Elementary/Middle School and High School.

Mrs. Zurita is excited to begin this new journey. “I feel thankful and humbled to have received this opportunity to share all the experiences I have learned with this beautiful community of parents, students, teachers and staff,” she said. “My vision is to prepare

each child spiritually, academically, socially and emotionally for successful living. We will do that by having God in our daily lives and through an engaging and challenging curriculum that equips students to be life-long learners.”

St. Augustine Elementary/Middle School will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, July 20 at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. The meeting will cover plans for this upcoming school year, the positive results and feedback from the recent accreditation visit, the tuition rate increase, and other important matters. All parents are encouraged to attend.

St. Augustine School will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and will continue to foster a positive environment that is conducive to the spiritual growth and academic excellence of its students.

Registration for St. Augustine Elementary/Middle School is ongoing. If you are interested in registering your child for this upcoming year, please call 956-724-1176. Prospective parents and students are welcome to visit the school for a campus tour and to meet teachers and staff.

Please be advised that St. Augustine Elementary/Middle School will be closed the week of July 3-7 for their annual summer break. The school will re-open on Monday, July 10, for their normal Monday through Thursday summer schedule.