

Br. Peter A. Pontolillo, S.M.

returns to San Antonio

to take the helm of Central Catholic High School

Br. Peter A. Pontolillo, S.M., Ph.D., a Marianist Brother since 1957, has been named Central Catholic High School President, according to John J. Stephens, Chairman of the Central Catholic Board of Directors.

"Br. Peter Pontolillo is more than qualified and capable of assuming the responsibilities of the job," said Stephens. "He is an experienced and gifted educator who brings a wealth of educational experience as well as a commitment to the Marianist way of life."

Rev. Joseph Tarrillion, S.M., President Emeritus agreed. "I could not think of more capable hands than those of Br. Peter in which to leave Central Catholic. He will provide a powerful influence on Central Catholic's future."

Br. Peter graduated from a Marianist high school — Chaminade High School in Mineola, NY.

Br. Peter was Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of San Antonio and the Diocese of Victoria, Texas, from 1986 to 1996, when he became Secretary General of the Society of Mary (Marianists) in Rome, Italy, until November, 2006. While Superintendent, he served as a Marianist representative on the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's University, San Antonio, for eight years and on several other education-related Boards locally and nationally.

He became a member of the Department of Chief Administrators of Catholic Education (CACE), National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), as the founding Executive Director of the Catholic Schools Administrators Association of New York State (CSAANYS) (1972-1976), Albany, NY, and has maintained CACE membership from 1986 to the present. In 1995, he was elected CACE Region 10 representative on the Schools Division Advisory Committee. He was elected to serve on the NCEA Secondary Schools Department Executive Committee from 1975 to 1981 and again from 1985 to 1992 and served as President of the Secondary Department and member of the NCEA Board of Directors from 1988 to 1991.

A graduate of the University of Dayton, Western Reserve University and St. Mary's University, he has taught in Cleveland, OH (1959-61), and at his alma mater,

Chaminade High School in Mineola, LI, NY (1961-66), and has been a high school Principal in Brooklyn, NY (1966-1972), and in Puerto Rico (1976-1986). He has given many workshops on Catholic School Education throughout the world during his 42 years in administration.

A vocal advocate for parental rights in education, he helped found statewide parent organizations in New York and Texas. He has been president or vice president of a number of organizations in the USA and Rome, and has received numerous awards for his leadership in Catholic Education. He is a member of the Phi Delta Kappa International Educational Fraternity since 1968, and has attended 42 consecutive NCEA Conventions and given presentations at eight of them. In November, 2006, he was invited by the Vatican to attend the UNESCO/Vatican International Symposium on *Education: A Path To Love*, in Paris, France.

Br. Peter has been on sabbatical, after returning to the United States from international service, to continue working in education for the Province of the USA and is based in San Antonio, TX. He serves on the Finance Council of Holy Rosary Parish (San Antonio) and the Education Committee of the Marianist Forum at St. Mary's University.

"In a time of unprecedented growth for Central Catholic, it is encouraging to be led by a visionary religious imbued with the Marianist charism," said Deacon Pat Cunningham '64, Principal.

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Central Catholic High School is a college preparatory school of the Marianist tradition educating young men from diverse backgrounds for success through the development of scholarship, leadership and moral character.