



Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese

Office of the Superintendent

PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCEMENT

February 26, 2024

The Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) is pleased to announce that Rev. Tien Tran and the Education Committee of St. Matthew's Elementary School in Surrey have hired **Mr. Michael van der Pauw** as Principal, effective September 1, 2024.

Mr. van der Pauw is currently the Principal of St. Bernadette Elementary School in Surrey and has served in Catholic Education for 21 years. His teaching experience began at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary in Coquitlam, where he taught for seven years. In 2010, he transferred to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Elementary School in Vancouver to teach the ADST curriculum to Kindergarten through to Grade 7 students. In 2012, Mr. van der Pauw was appointed Vice Principal and Grade 7 teacher at St. Francis Xavier Elementary School in Vancouver. He moved to St. Bernadette Elementary School in 2014 to serve as Principal.

Mr. van der Pauw graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Visual Arts and History (2001). He received his Bachelor of Education (2003) from the University of British Columbia. In 2011, Mr. van der Pauw was awarded a Master of Arts in Leadership and Administration from Gonzaga University.

Mr. van der Pauw has made many notable contributions to the CISVA community that include involvement in the Evangelization Leadership Team, the Elementary Athletic Commission (commissioner and chair), and Principal Mentorship. His vision and expertise in Catholic education will continue to foster an environment of faith integrated with learning at St. Matthew's Elementary School.

The CISVA congratulates Mr. van der Pauw on his new appointment and welcomes him to the St. Matthew's School community.