



Friday 1st July 2022

Re: New South Wales Coptic Orthodox Board of Education

To our Sydney Diocese Coptic Orthodox Community,

On Thursday 9 June 2022 (6 Paone 1738), His Holiness Pope Tawadros II the 118th Patriarch of the See of Alexandria and His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Papal Legate of the Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions received correspondence from four Directors of the NSW Coptic Orthodox Board of Education (The Board).

The purpose of the correspondence was to thank His Holiness for the opportunity to serve the Coptic Colleges in NSW and to advise His Holiness that four of the six Directors had resigned from the Board.

On behalf of His Eminence, we thank Mr Mina Hanna, Ms Monica Ikladios, Dr Mourad Nosir, and Dr Mena Salib for their dedication to the service of the Colleges from 2020 to 2022 and pray that the Lord bestows upon them heavenly blessings for their efforts and sacrifices.

To support the two Board Directors, the Board of Trustees has resolved to appoint additional Directors to ensure the continuity of this vital ministry. Accordingly, the following individuals will be charged with carrying on the functions of the Board:

- Mr Mahrous (Ross) Nassif (Chair, expertise in governance and employment law)
- Dr Lydia Moussa (Director, expertise in strategy and change management)
- Ms Debbie Armanious (Director, expertise in education and pastoral care)
- Mr Mark Girgis (Director, expertise in architecture and construction)
- Dr Emad Awadalla (Director, expertise in finance and accounting)

The Board is further supported by Father Joseph Ghattas as the Chaplain General.



As part of transitioning the Colleges through this change journey, the Board has engaged College executives and staff through workshops and surveys to ensure their priorities are captured and addressed.

The Board has also engaged parents to understand their priorities and ensure the wellbeing of the students who are central to this service.

Support is now sought from the Coptic Orthodox Community in Sydney to further enhance and diversify the skillsets of the Board.

By filling out the following [nomination form for Directors](#) for the NSW Coptic Orthodox Board of Education, appointments will be made in accordance with the provisions of clause 8.1(c) of the Constitution of NSW Coptic Orthodox Board of Education Ltd.

Candidates will be nominated by the community and appointed by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the skill sets required by the NSW Coptic Orthodox Board of Education's skills matrix and the Education industry's best practice standards.

We pray for the guidance and grace of our Lord Jesus as we come together for the betterment of our Coptic Orthodox Colleges and to serve His blessed children.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

Yours faithfully,

The NSW Coptic Orthodox Board of Education
education.board@sydneycopts.org



On the value of our Coptic Orthodox Colleges, His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Papal Legate to the Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions, wrote:

"Our Coptic Orthodox Colleges have always been a jewel in the crown of the Church in Sydney, and are critical for the future of our children. They provide a sanctuary of learning and development that is immersed in the richness of our Orthodox Christian Faith and culture.

As we continue to serve our Colleges, we are reminded that there is no greater joy than for our children to walk in Truth, and in the joy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us constantly keep our children at the forefront of all we do, to instil in them unshakable Faith, the Fruits of the Spirit, and a longing to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I am thankful for the tireless and faithful work of our former Board members and all those who have so faithfully served our colleges in every way thus far, and I am absolutely confident that those who now receive the baton on the Coptic Board of Education will continue to work with official governing bodies, the Board of Trustees, College Executives, staff, parents, and the community in unity and with utmost love, dedication, and professionalism as we transition to the next phase of growth and expansion across our colleges.

I pray that our Lord Jesus Christ guides them, and grants us all the wisdom and discernment to serve towards the prosperity of our colleges and the present and future well-being of our children."

His Eminence, Archbishop Angaelos

Papal Legate of the Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions.