For Immediate Release

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**Archdiocesan 2019-2020 Distinguished Catholic School Administrator Announced**

**HARTFORD, Conn.** (September 25, 2019) The Archdiocese of Hartford is pleased to announce that Eileen M. Regan, President/Chief Administrator of Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, has been selected as the 2019 – 2020 Archdiocesan Distinguished Catholic School Administrator. News of the award was first shared on August 22 at the Administrators Convocation, and then at the 42nd Annual HOPES (Help Our Parish Elementary Schools) Dinner on September 24.

Eileen is a true champion for Catholic school education in general and for Sacred Heart High School (SHHS) in particular, believing strongly in the importance of providing all students and families with the richness of a Catholic school education. A 1978 graduate of SHHS, Eileen came “home to the Heart” in 1990, joining the staff as the Director of Advancement. During her tenure at the Heart, she attended Sacred Heart University’s Catholic School Leadership Program; taught Economics and TV Production classes; served as Vice-Principal; and in 2009 was named Interim President /Chief Administrator. In 2010 Eileen was appointed as the Heart’s fifth President/Chief Administrator.

Over the last twenty-nine years at SHHS, Eileen’s impact on the school’s advancement efforts has been substantial. She designed and implemented leadership donor campaigns for the Walter Niebuhr Computer Lab and the Reverend John Dial Media Center; managed the capital efforts for the Heart’s Waterbury armory project; served as a member of the Capital Campaign Committee for the installation of the new science and math wing; and managed the donor campaigns to create Alumni Hall and the Reverend John Blanchfield Reading Room.

Eileen has also worked extremely hard to expand partnerships with alumni and friends of the Heart to support scholarship assistance benefitting students attending SHHS from the greater Waterbury community. Eileen initiated and continues to oversee the annual Sacred Heart High

***Distinguished Catholic School Administrator/Page Two***

School Awards Dinner and Silent Auction, which typically draws an annual attendance in excess of nine hundred. Under her leadership the SHHS annual golf classic plays host each year to a sellout crowd and raises tens of thousands of dollars for the benefit of Sacred Heart students. For over ten years, she was also instrumental in the design, implementation and organization of the Archbishop’s Annual Scholarship Breakfast for the benefit of the Greater Waterbury Catholic elementary partner schools, which has raised over $250,000.00 for scholarship assistance.

As Sacred Heart’s President, Eileen has overseen the adoption of a five-year strategic plan providing a vision and road map for the future of the Heart. She is truly committed to providing the students and families at Sacred Heart with an environment that stresses academic excellence, spiritual development, and service to the greater community. With the addition of its new division – Sacred Heart Middle School – SHHS becomes the only Catholic high school in the Archdiocese to offer grades 6 – 12, providing students with a comprehensive preparation for high school while assisting in strong character formation.

Sr. Mary Grace Walsh, ASCJ, Ph.D., Provost for Education, Evangelization and Catechesis for the Archdiocese of Hartford, shares that “I applaud the outstanding vision and leadership that Eileen has consistently demonstrated in her roles at Sacred Heart High School. The stability of the school, its rich academic offerings, its strong Catholic foundation, and its atmosphere of family have all been positively impacted by her efforts.”

Eileen is a proud alumna of St. Margaret’s School and Sacred Heart High School. Her roots run very deep within the Sacred Heart High School family as her father, mother, sisters, daughters, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews have all walked the halls of the Heart over the last seven decades. After graduating from the Heart, Eileen earned her B.A. from Southern Connecticut State University, and began her career in the Marketing Department at the former First Federal Savings and Loan (Webster Bank). Later on in her career she was named Marketing Director at the Bank of Waterbury.

Eileen is a past recipient of the Distinguished Educator Award from the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Waterbury, and the St. Mary’s School Educator of the Year Award. A former member of

***Distinguished Catholic School Administrator/Page Three***

the St. Vincent DePaul Board of Directors, she is currently a member of the National Catholic Education Association, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Association of Catholic Admissions and Advancement Professionals. In past years she has also served as a member of the Waterbury Chamber of Commerce’s SME, a Board Member of the Waterbury YWCA, chairman of the Business Women’s Forum, and member of the St. Mary Magdalen Home and School Association.

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