



**ANNOUNCING THE
HEAD OF SCHOOL
JOEL GAINES**

**"IF YOU WANT TO GO
FAST, GO ALONE. IF
YOU WANT TO GO
FAR, GO TOGETHER!"**

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Board of Directors of The City School is pleased to announce the appointment of Joel Gaines as Head of School. Mr. Gaines has served as the Interim Head of School since July 1, 2020. The board made this appointment based on his proven leadership record and commitment to the vision and mission of the school.

Mr. Gaines has provided solid leadership, meeting the challenges of the pandemic. During this time, he has communicated effectively with all parts of the school's community, has reached out to donors, mentored two new Principals, and is building the framework to put the school on a stronger financial position.

Central to his work has been the biblical vision of shalom that grows out of following Jesus and brings light into the world. Mr. Gaines has a deep commitment to the city, to children, and to advance the mission of the school "to being light to the city".

Mr. Gaines' training and experience in education have prepared him well to serve as Head of School for the three campuses. Mr. Gaines taught for ten years in the Philadelphia public school system, served as an assistant administrator at Simon Gratz High School and as a Principal of the Upper School at Delaware County

Christian School prior to his service at The City School, where he served as high school Principal since 2018.

He earned a master's degree and principal's certification at Cabrini University, is married to Tia and is the father of four children. Joel grew up in Philadelphia and has a passion for the city. He said "I am grateful for the supportive community that surrounds the school. The prayers, words of counsel and financial investments inspire and build my passion to provide the best possible education for all of our students."

His passion for learning and education were captured as he said, "Thinking about our students and alumni as agents of light and healing in our society propels me to move forward to provide an education rooted in the shalom of Christ. It is a blessing to have the opportunity to be part of a school seeking to bring light to the city one student at a time in the name of Jesus."

He continued saying "that it is our goal to bring this valuable Christ-centered education to more students as we grow and continue to build an educational program that meets the needs of students and prepares them for future success."

The board of directors will work with Joel to advance the mission and vision of the school. We thank you for the wonderful support you have provided for The City School. We are grateful for God's grace, love and compassion that has enabled us to be working together during these difficult days. We are pleased with the leadership Joel has been providing and ask that you continue to keep him and The City School community in your prayers.

Shalom!

J. Richard Thomas
Board Chair

Dimitria Davenport
Vice Chair