



## ST. JOHN BOSCO HIGH SCHOOL SALESIAN COLLEGE PREPARATORY

### Alumnus Derrick Fernando Named Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs at St. John Bosco High School



BELLFLOWER, CA – March 16, 2023 – St. John Bosco High School alumnus and English instructor, Mr. Derrick Fernando (Class of 2000), has been named Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs at St. John Bosco High School. Mr. Fernando is currently serving his 11<sup>th</sup> year teaching English at SJB and will step into this new leadership role for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mr. Fernando holds a Master's Degree in English and has spent the past 17 years as an educator at both the high school and collegiate levels. He has held several leadership roles at St. John Bosco during his 11 years at the school, including Dean of Students, WCEA Accreditation Chair, Writing Across the Curriculum Director, and Assessment Coordinator. He also collaborated on the development of SJB's STEP program as well as their Diversity, Equity and Inclusion practices.

"As an alumnus of the school and now principal, I am excited to see Mr. Fernando assume this role. In his time at St. John Bosco High School, his leadership capacity has continued to expand, and I look forward to seeing Mr. Fernando lead our academic programming into the future," said Dr. Kris Anderson, Principal at SJB.

Mr. Fernando's teaching and leadership philosophy is rooted in empowerment, which he believes to be a byproduct of good training and confidence in the classroom. He says, "I firmly believe that by combining critical literacy with relevant and rigorous curriculum, people are able to recognize the importance of their words and actions, the responsibility of citizenship, and, most importantly, the ability they each have in affecting positive change in their own lives and the lives of others as Don Bosco envisioned."

In this new role, Mr. Fernando will be tasked with supporting, promoting and upholding the academic agenda established by the staff and principal of the school. Since 1940, St. John Bosco High School has been widely regarded as one of the most forward-thinking and innovative academic institutions in the Archdiocese, offering Academic Pathway programs that mirror college majors, dual enrollment courses and more than 30 different Advanced Placement and Honors courses.

"I have found great joy in helping students recognize their academic strengths on the path to their personal and professional goals, and I'm excited to continue shaping St. John Bosco High School's culture of inclusivity



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and rigorous academics in this new role,” Mr. Fernando said. “I look forward to growing and developing as a servant leader at a place I’ve called home as a student, an educator and now as an administrator,” he added.

Mr. Fernando will begin his new role as Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs on July 1, 2023 ahead of the 2023-2024 school year.