

Preston High School

2780 Schurz Avenue Bronx, New York 10465 (718) 863-9134 • Fax (718) 863-6125 www.prestonhs.org

Dear Preston Family,

My name is Andrea Donkor and not only am I a proud alum and founding member of Preston Forever, I also have the distinct honor of serving as the chair of Preston High School's Board of Trustees.

I want to begin by thanking each and every one of you for your advocacy this past school year as a member of the Preston community—whether as a current student, parent/guardian, alum or simply friend and believer in Preston's mission and impact. Thank you also for your patience in the few months since Preston won its hard-earned fight to remain open and continue to serve the Bronx and greater New York City.

Our hard work this summer has allowed for the formal establishment of an independently appointed Board, our first formal board meeting in June, and countless meetings and points of decision-making in partnership with Principal Jen Connolly and the Preston administration.

Our Board has so much to tackle in this upcoming 2025-26 school year, but we must prioritize and so, we are focused on:

- **Trust & Engagement:** Fostering transparency with students, parents, alumnae, and community.
- **Student Wellbeing:** Strengthening our educational discipline and approach to equip young women to lead with faith, purpose, joy, and excellence.
- Expansion: Growing Preston's enrollment and fundraising capacity to ensure its success for many years to come.
- **Evolution:** Honoring the 80+ year legacy and charism of the Divine Compassion while charting a new path forward as a Catholic school under a fortified mission.



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• And finally, ownership: While Preston now has an opportunity to continue to occupy and operate in the building first acquired by its founders, we remain focused on the long-term strategy of Preston one day owning the campus upon which its rich history and identity resides. It is Preston's birthright.

And now, with the fundamentals of our governance structure in place and our priorities established, we return to you—the Preston community—to invite you to bring your many talents, gifts and resources to help usher in a brand new day for Preston.

At any moment, Preston could use your help and leadership. And so we have developed a resource for you to go to at any time to understand how you can best serve our common goal to make Preston forever.

Please go to <u>www.PrestonForever.com</u>, under the "Take Action" section of the page to explore how you can help.

Thank you for all you've done and will continue to do. I look forward to continuing this journey together. Please feel free to reach out to and engage the Board at phsboard@prestonhs.org.

With gratitude,

Andrea S. Donkor Preston High School Board Chair