



**To: The Mullen High School Community**  
**From: Mullen High School Board of Trustees**  
**Subject: New President and CEO**

Following an extensive nationwide search, the Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Raul Cardenas, Jr., PhD, as the new President and CEO of Mullen High School effective June 1st. Dr. Cardenas has most recently served as a Vice Chancellor at the University of Colorado Denver and has almost 30 years of experience in educational leadership at both the secondary and collegiate level. He is a current parent of two Mullen scholars and lives in Centennial with his children and wife, Tricia, to whom he has been married for 22 years. In his spare time, Dr. Cardenas loves to spend time with his family and play golf.

During his prestigious career, Dr. Cardenas has been responsible for a variety of fundraising efforts including a recent successful raise for a new student wellness center at the University of Colorado Denver. Early in his career, he founded two charter schools in Phoenix serving those less fortunate. Dr. Cardenas possesses a Doctorate in Philosophy, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Arizona State University, a Masters in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University and a Bachelors in Political Science from Pepperdine University. His full resume is attached for your information.

We were beyond impressed with Dr. Cardenas' relentless and lifelong passion to serving young scholars, especially those in need consistent with our Lasallian mission. We're confident in his unique ability to further the Catholic identity of Mullen and the Lasallian charism and his ability to articulate Mullen's mission and educational philosophy to inspire and motivate all constituencies.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Jeff Howard and Linda Brady who capably served as our Acting Presidents and CEOs since last June. Their commitment to Mullen and our students is truly remarkable, and we are grateful.

"On behalf of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, I express my gratitude to Mr. Raul Cardenas for accepting the Trustees' invitation to lead Mullen High School as its next President. I am grateful to the Trustees for their thorough presidential search process, and I express confidence in Mr. Cardenas' commitment to our Lasallian Catholic educational mission. May he serve the Mullen community well in the years ahead, in our shared efforts to animate our Lasallian core principles of Faith in the Presence of God, Respect for All Persons, Inclusive Community, Concern for the Poor and Social Justice, and Quality Education." - Br. Donald Johanson, FSC Visitor/Provincial, District of San Francisco New Orleans



The Search Committee was comprised of a great cross-section of stakeholders at Mullen, and we are so thankful for the search committee's tireless effort, deliberation and time commitment. The members of the Search Committee include:

- Chris Manley (board member)
- Chris Martinez (alumnus and board member)
- Craig Bowman (alumnus and former board member)
- David Fatovic (alumnus and former board member)
- Flossie O'Leary (board member)
- Janell Kloosterman (former principal)
- John Schwappach, MD (former parent)
- Linda Brady (board member and former principal)
- Liz Castellano (educator)
- Vince Massey (athletic director)
- Walt Coughlin (alumnus and board member)

We look forward to welcoming Dr. Cardenas to his new role within the Mullen community and to working with him to maintain the Lasallian's five core principles and Mullen's commitment to excellence in academics, athletics, activities, arts, and altruism.

Attached is Dr. Cardenas' resume further illustrating the great leader we have selected for our community.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever.

## ***RAUL CARDENAS, Jr., Ph. D.***

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### **SUMMARY**

Vice Chancellor for Student affairs and Enrollment Management with over 26 years of administrative roles within a 29+ year career of educational leadership experience. Posses' extensive experience in leadership, curricular, fundraising, retention and enrollment related areas. Additionally, has extensive experience in secondary school education particularly in curriculum development, community building, governing board management, enrollment management, marketing, and retention. Has experience in fundraising and various development efforts. Effective in developing and implementing strategic initiatives that utilize and leverage institutional resources, increase student accessibility and retention, improve program processes, while meeting institutional goals. Strengths in partnering with administrators, unit directors, staff, faculty, business leaders, tribal governments, elected officials, and local community organizations.

### **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 2004

Masters of Education, Educational Leadership  
Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, 1994

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science  
Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, 1988

Scottsdale Community College, Scottsdale, AZ, 1984 - 1986

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus** **8/2011 - present**

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus provides a diverse body of students with opportunities to enhance their lives, careers and research. The university offers more than 130 programs in 13 schools and colleges in the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and professional health levels.

**Vice Chancellor for Student Development** **2018 – present**

*University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus*

As the senior student affairs officer, responsible for overseeing the following areas that span both campuses; Student Life, Campus Recreation, Housing and Dining, Student Government and Clubs and Organization, Interpersonal Violence Office (The Phoenix Center), Student Counseling Center, Disability Support Services, New Student Orientation, Behavior Intervention Office (CARE), Veterans Student Services, University Events, Community Standards and Conduct, Dean of Students, Housing and Residential Education, and Club Sports. Responsible for a budget of \$15 million dollars

## **Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management**

2016 – 2018

*University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus*

Was the first to serve in the role of Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

## **Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management**

*University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Center*

2011 – 2015

As the senior student affairs officer, responsible for overseeing the following areas that span both campuses; Admissions, Financial Aid Office, Scholarship Office, Pre-Colligate Office, Office of K-12 Outreach, Student Life, Campus Recreation, Housing and Dining, Student Government and Clubs and Organization, Interpersonal Violence Office (The Phoenix Center), Student Counseling Center, Academic Success and Advising Center, Registrar, Trio Programs, Disability Support Services, Lynx Center, New Student Orientation, Learning Resource Center, Office of Data Analytics for Enrollment and Retention, Learning Resource Center, Behavior Intervention Office (CARE), Veterans Student Services, Career Services, Alumni, University Events, Community Standards and Wellness, Dean of Students, Housing and Residential Education, and Club Sports. Responsible for a budget of \$30 million.

Over the last eight years:

- Increased new student enrollment by 35%
- Participated on budget steering committee to develop a new university budgeting model
- In each of the last five years, had largest freshman class and most diverse (57% underrepresented students) in school history.
- Participated in the development of university strategic plan.
- Lead in the development and planning for a \$70 million student services building
- Lead efforts to create the first university mascot
- Assisted in the creation of university marketing campaign
- Responsible for securing \$1.5 million in scholarships
- Lead efforts to increase graduation rate over the last five years by 8%.
- Created the Office of K-12 Outreach
- Lead in the development of a campus recreation center which opened in Spring 2018.
- Created first Housing and Dining Office.

## **Assistant Vice President for Student Engagement and Dean of Students**

*University of Northern Colorado*

2009 – 2011

The University of Northern Colorado is a Carnegie classified institution with an enrollment of 11,000 students. Was charged with developing and creating a new student affairs unit, the Office of Student Engagement and Dean of Students. The Office of Student Engagement is housed in the Division of Academic Affairs and reports directly to the Provost and Senior Vice President of the university.

- Created a Student Engagement Leadership Council consisting of individuals from across the country. In less than a year received \$80,000 in commitments.
- Established a tutoring program for local school district utilizing university student work study.

## **Associate Vice President for School/Community Partnerships and Special Assistant to the President**

*Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO*

2008 - 2009

The Associate Vice President for School Community Partnerships and Special Assistant to the President exercises leadership on behalf of the Colorado State University president in cultivating

external opportunities at early childhood, K-12, and community college levels, as well as with partner organizations, government agencies, and private foundations. After four months on the job, there was a change in university leadership and I was given the opportunity to return to UNC.

### **Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Access**

*University of Northern Colorado, Greeley CO*

2007 – 2008

The Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Access has the responsibility for overseeing the enrollment for the entire university. Direct oversight of the Admissions Office, Financial Aid Office, and the Registrar's Office. Report directly to the Senior Vice President and Provost.

- Increased freshman enrollment from previous year by 6%.
- Lead in the development and implementation of early outreach initiatives for middle school students. Engaged faculty from the earth science, chemistry, recreation, and biology departments to assist in the outreach to middle school students. This is the first time that middle school students have been brought to campus in an intentional manner. By year end, all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (1500) in the local community visited campus.
- Secured \$20,000 from donor for scholarships to undergraduate students.

### **Arizona State University**

**1989 – 1997/2000 - 2007**

#### **Senior Associate Dean and Executive Director – Access ASU**

*Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

2006 – 2007

Access ASU is a new initiative, created to meet the mission of ASU of being the most accessible while maintaining its academic quality for all of Arizona's students. Report directly to the Assistant Vice-President and to the Vice President of University Undergraduate Initiatives (enrollment management).

- Wrote and was awarded a \$25,000 grant to ensure outreach activities were enhanced and implemented in targeted schools, allowing the department to serve 2000 more students.
- Developed an initiative to house a staff member, *Executive Coordinators*, in local school district which have very low university college going rates.
- Developed a partnership with Intercollegiate Athletics to offer various athletics events to elementary aged students free of charge.

#### **Senior Associate Dean of Undergraduate Admissions**

*Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

2004 – 2006

As Chief Operating Officer, provided leadership for over 70 staff members, including 6 directors, in the development and implementation of strategic initiatives focused on enhancing enrollment services in an effort to increase student recruitment for all three ASU campuses and their respective academic programs. Managed the \$5 million budget and operations of the department, as well as international admissions new student orientation programs, and K-12 outreach. Reported directly to the Dean of Admissions.

- Met institutional goals of increasing university resident and non-resident admissions by 5%.
- Wrote and was awarded a \$15,000 grant for additional support for recruitment/outreach activities, serving 2000 more students with on campus programming.

#### **Director, Rodel Community Scholars**

*Arizona State University – W. P. Carey School of Business*

2001 – 2004

Created and implemented a civic leadership program for undergraduate students within the W.P. Carey School of Business with the goal that undergraduate students remain committed to creating solutions to

community problems throughout their professional business careers and that at-risk high school students graduate from state universities. Responsible for the budget, hiring and management of faculty and staff and managed an advisory board of community, business and school leaders. Reported directly to the Dean and Deputy Dean.

**Project Director - Project PRIME/Office of Youth Preparation**

*Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

1994 – 1997

Project PRIME was created with the goal of increasing the number of underrepresented Arizona high school students who attend higher education. Responsible for administering the project's activities in eleven junior and high schools with over one hundred math and English teachers throughout the state. In addition, responsible for the supervision and evaluation of a staff of eight program specialists, monitoring budgets, overseeing the development of specific curricular and instructional methodologies and materials, creating school and community partnerships and making presentations to heads of schools, businesses, and legislators.

**Assistant Director, Project PRIME**

1990 – 1994

Primary responsibility was to oversee the implementation of Project PRIME activities. Supervised and evaluated a staff of eight Instructional Specialists. Managed a budget of over \$800,000, of which \$370,000 was part of a three-year \$1.2 million-year grant from the Department of Education, and the development of specific methodologies and materials for implementation by the project.

**Instructional Specialist IV, Project PRIME**

1989 – 1990

Developed methodologies and materials for the implementation of a new and unique educational program. Conducted training for elementary and high school teachers, administrators, and counselors. Designed and conducted special program evaluation activities. Assisted teachers and professional staff in the design of programs and preparation of program proposals.

**Instructional Specialist III, Project PRIME**

1989 – 1990

**SECONDARY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE**

**Principal**

*International Commerce Institute, Phoenix, AZ*

1998 –2001

A charter high school with a student population of approximately 700 students. Maintained close communication with the staff and students. Oversaw student academic progress, monitored and evaluated faculty, enforced student discipline, and conferences with parents. Served as the lead liaison to the community colleges and facilitated the concurrent enrollment of 100 students a year in the community college. Additionally, instilled a strong customer service philosophy to ensure that students were served well, thus creating a reputation of a student friendly high school.

**Assistant Director/Principal**

*Genesis Academy Charter High School, Phoenix, AZ*

1997 – 1998

A Genesis Academy is a charter high school with the mission of preparing its students for post-secondary education. The school served approximately 120 high risk students (home arrest/probation or attending their fourth high school). Oversaw curriculum and provided support to the faculty in implementing the schools' instructional programs. Assisted in writing the charter school application and overseeing the \$700,000 school budget and ensured that the school followed the State Department of Education's fiscal operating procedures.