

March 28, 2017

Dear Catholic High School Principal,

I am a graduate student at the Catholic University of America; I'm writing to request your help with a research project. As a Catholic school educator, I am interested in supporting teachers and administrators in our Catholic high schools in their efforts to promote mission-focused school cultures. The primary purpose of this research is to explore the effects of teachers' knowledge of a school's mission statement on their understanding of the mission and its manifestation in school culture. Based on feedback from the pilot study, teachers' participation in this research study is likely to increase teachers' focus on your school's mission.

I would like to ask for your support of this research by forwarding a letter to the teachers in your high school inviting them to participate in the study. As participants, they will be asked to complete an online survey using a website; the survey can be completed in about 15 minutes. The letter explains how to access the survey and provides the password that they will need. It also includes the consent to participate language required by the IRB. Participation will be anonymous and all of their responses will be kept confidential. The names of the dioceses and schools that participate in this study will not appear in my published dissertation.

Thank you for your devotion to our shared mission in Catholic school education! Your support for this research designed to strengthen our schools is sincerely appreciated! Please contact me at 29messina@cua.edu if you are willing to forward a message from me to your teachers inviting them to participate in this study or if have questions concerning this study.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope that you and your teachers will contribute to this research in support of Catholic high school education. Thank you and God bless you!

Barbara Messina

29messina@cua.edu

(315) 470-1456