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## **St. Ignatius School has been granted accreditation by the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYS AIS)**

(Bronx, New York, May 31, 2018) – **Eavan O'Driscoll**, President, announced today that **St. Ignatius School** was recommended for accreditation by the NYS AIS Commission on Accreditation and approved by the NYS AIS Board of Trustees at their meeting held in May 2018. The New York State Association of Independent Schools is authorized by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, *“to evaluate and accredit nursery schools, kindergartens, elementary and secondary schools operating within the State of New York and, as concerns New York corporations with branches in other states and countries, to evaluate and accredit those consistent with the laws, rules and regulations of host states and countries.”* Additionally, NYS AIS is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools' (NAIS) Commission on Accreditation which includes nineteen regional and state accrediting agencies. As a member of the NAIS Commission on Accreditation, the NYS AIS accreditation process is recognized across the United States and throughout the world.

*“For St. Ignatius School the NYS AIS self-evaluation was an invaluable experience and bonded us inextricably as a community. We have emerged even more committed to fostering the social, intellectual and spiritual wellbeing of our students. We are renewed in our belief that the very poorest – even more so – have a right to the best education, in a safe environment, and that our students from the South Bronx have the inalienable right to become their best selves while being men and women for others.” - Eavan O'Driscoll, President*

A NYS AIS accreditation represents the culmination of an in-depth self-study that includes an exhaustive internal and external examination of all aspects of the school community including mission and culture, governance, educational program, student and student services, finance and school operations, parents, faculty and non-teaching personnel, community relations, and communications. Through a process of continual self-improvement that includes visiting teams of professionals from outside the school community, St. Ignatius School has fulfilled the accreditation requirements for an independent school.

According to Dr. Mark W. Lauria, NYS AIS Executive Director, *“the rigorous accreditation process that each NYS AIS school undergoes represents a significant commitment of time and energy allowing the school and NYS AIS to thoroughly exam all facets of the school as part of the continuous improvement that is needed to best serve students and their families. St. Ignatius School is to be commended for their participation in this important process of self-improvement.”*

About NYS AIS:

The New York State Association of Independent Schools was founded in 1947 by eleven schools and has grown to over 195 member schools and organizations incorporated in the State of New York. The NYS AIS mission is:

*The New York State Association of Independent Schools promotes the independence, well-being, and public understanding of, and respect for, New York Independent Schools and serves as an accrediting body charter by the New York State Board of Regents.*

For more information about NYS AIS or NYS AIS accreditation, please go to: [www.nysais.org](http://www.nysais.org).