



Mr. Gerard Bautista
Class of 1984
FDAA President

Dear Mr. Bautista,

On behalf of FDMS, I am issuing this statement to clarify the confusion and tension regarding the definition of Alumni and Non-Alumni in order to determine who qualifies to play in the annual basketball summer tournament, and for other purposes that the school may from time to time approve or promulgate.

As the Principal and administrator of FDMS, I have the solemn duty and responsibility to protect, preserve, and enhance the name and reputation of the FD name and school, and to ensure that the FD name is properly used in accordance with the policies and standards of the school. In this regard, the definition of what is an "alumni" and "non-alumni" is determined by the school, and only by the school, and any entity bearing or using the FD name in any way must comply; otherwise, it must not bear, and cease the use of the FD name in any way. No entity, whether it is affiliated or not with FD, is authorized to unilaterally determine who "counts" as an alumni. That determining and final decision shall come from the school only.

Accordingly, for purposes of the annual basketball summer tournament, other alumni sport events and the Alumni Wall, the 2-year rule shall remain in force, which means that an individual must have attended FD for at least two full school years (four semesters) to be considered an alumnus of the school. On any other circumstance or situation, the definition of alumni is an individual who has been graduated and issued a diploma by FD, unless the school states otherwise in writing. The administration possesses records of all students who have attended FD, and can be consulted to determine if an individual is considered an alumnus of the school.

This 2-year rule, restricted to specific circumstances as stated above, was approved by Fr. Jeff San Nicolas three years ago, as the principal then and now our Vicar General of the archdiocese and this current administration shall uphold that rule. If there is any question as to the status of an individual, please call the FD administrative office and they will determine and issue the standing of such individual.

The FDAA was established and currently exists to support FDMS and the school, faculty and students are truly and prayerfully grateful for the FDAA's continued and zealous dedication and effort to do so in the various and many generous ways it has done so over the years. As Duenas men, you are setting the standards for all future Friars, and it

is imperative that the FD diploma is not diminished in value by “watering down” the rule that determines eligibility for alumni status. The value of the FD diploma and name must be preserved and enhanced consistently and continuously.

I pray that we keep working together to uphold this school’s name and colors, and to continue to instill and exhibit honor, pride, and faith in what we say and do. May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Fortes in Fide,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tony Thompson
Principal

Cc: Mr. Dean Manglona, FDAA Member
Mr. Joseph Mateo, FDAA Member
Mr. Duane Sablan, FDAA Member
Fr. Jeffrey San Nicolas, Vicar General
Mr. Richard Alvia, Superintendent of Catholic Schools