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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

***St. Philip's Scores BIG with an Assist from Shaquille O'Neal!***

***22nd Annual Destiny Award Luncheon Raises over \$1.2M***

(DALLAS, TX – March 1, 2022) – The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Destiny Award Luncheon for St. Philip's School and Community Center was **BIG!** On **Wednesday, February 23rd** friends, family, and supporters of St. Philip's School and Community Center gathered at the Hyatt Regency Dallas in the Landmark Ballroom despite the inclement weather. St. Philip's signature fundraising event yielded the largest attendance ever (1,200 guests), a keynote speaker standing at 7 ft. 1 in., and the most funds ever raised for the Destiny Award Luncheon in its 22 years of existence! Event Chair, **Pete Chilian**, and Underwriting Chair, **Mark Copeland**, announced at the end of the milestone event that **St. Philip's exceeded its fundraising goal of \$1-million dollars by \$200,000, with a grand total of 1.2 million dollars!**

The luncheon featured Four-time NBA Champion, 15-time NBA All-Star, three-time NBA Finals MVP and Entrepreneur, **Shaquille O'Neal**, as the **Parrish Family Destiny Award Luncheon Speaker**. Former Mavericks Coach, **Avery Johnson**, moderated the live conversation with O'Neal on the theme, "Excellence is a Habit." Not only is O'Neal a legendary athlete, but he is also a powerful media personality and businessman. His tall stature and charismatic personality reeled the crowd in, but his even bigger heart to serve, give back, and make others happy is what truly captivated the audience. Shaq described St. Philip's as a model for schools around the world, stating that he'll be back to take a tour of the campus in the near future. Prior to the luncheon, he engaged with students in a dynamic Student Showcase that included sports trivia, the math of basketball, and more.

**Dr. Bobby Lyle received the 2022 Mona & David Munson Humanitarian Award** in recognition of his tremendous leadership, entrepreneurial, and philanthropic work in North Texas. All funds raised will directly benefit St. Philip's core educational, athletic, and social services programs.

The 2022 Destiny Award Luncheon Leadership included:

**Luncheon Chair: Pete Chilian**

**Underwriting Chair: Mark Copeland**

**Honorary Chairs: Rebecca and Rob Landin**

**Host Committee Chairs: Andrew Weil and Tim Weil**

**About St. Philip's School & Community Center**

St. Philip's School & Community Center is a Christian private school in southern Dallas currently serving approximately 240 students in grades PK2 through 6th grade with expansion to 7<sup>th</sup> grade fall 2022 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade fall 2023. St. Philip's is also a multi-faceted community center, providing numerous athletic, educational, and social services to over 4,000 children, youth, and adults annually.

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