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Dear RCS Family,

February 2018

It is true. The mid-way point on our academic calendar, February 2, may sneak up by surprise. Tomorrow, we reach the end of the first semester. I want to thank our dedicated staff for their tireless efforts to fulfill RCS' mission: "*Educating and developing the whole person for the glory of God.*" If you see the positive impact in your child's life or learning, provide a dollop of encouragement in word or deed to a specific staff member. As a former teacher and principal, I guarantee your positive feedback blows fresh air into their sails.

With one half of the year in our rear-view mirror, this month's letter is devoted to enrollment related concerns and the Enrollment Matters Campaign. The summary of all 12 initiatives appears on the following pages.

Our reenrollment window officially opens **Thursday, February 15**. The details for enrollment and reenrollment recently appeared in school newsletters. The RCS administrative team is editing admission forms and the tuition schedule for new and continuously enrolled students. A big goal for the team is to streamline admissions and avoid duplicating effort for families.

To the families waiting for a confirmation about the high school relocation, I stand with you. Last September, the project timeline showed **February 28** as the decision deadline. Along with the Board, I trust the Lord for a definitive answer by the end of February. We are nearing the end of feasibility studies. However, without a written agreement, it is premature to share details or entertain speculation. Our good and gracious God is still weaving His story. I am asking everyone to wait patiently, be thankful, and pray expectantly.

Someone once said, "Waiting is God's way to show we are not in control." The twists and turns of the high-school relocation efforts offer poignant reminders. God is in charge, and blessed RCS with committed helpers. I want to thank our Board members for their selfless devotion, nearly non-stop correspondence, and attendance at meetings tied to the relocation adventure. They deserve a round of applause and our continued prayer.

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There is a potential conflict with the timing of the announcement around the high school decision and reenrollment plans. Please know the reenrollment window flexes with the timing of the high-school announcement. If the news arrives at the end of February, then the enrollment period will extend further into the calendar year than previously shared. Expect a separate email from me with an announcement concerning the high school decision along with any adjustments to enrollment.

It is time to pivot off that topic and don my entrepreneurial hat. Last week, I learned about smile.amazon.com. Many families using Amazon.com already know this pro tip. Rainier Christian Schools does business as **Christian Enterprises Inc**, a 501(c)(3) entity. If you use Amazon.com for purchases, consider smile.amazon.com. When shopping online via smile.amazon.com, Christian Enterprises Inc. receives 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

What is the trick? The purchase must begin with the browser pointed at smile.amazon.com The correct starting page shows a dialogue box and reads, **“Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support Christian Enterprises Inc.”** From January through November 2017, RCS collected nearly \$1800 through the AmazonSmile program.

Lastly, I have the pleasure of making two introductions. Please welcome Kery Wong, our new Student Accounts Specialist, to the RCS community. Kery steps into the role on Monday, February 5. She is originally from Hong Kong. In 2008, Kery and her husband moved to Seattle for his pastoral ministry at a Chinese Christian church. She served as the program manager in a Christian organization for 8 years to serve students with disabilities and their families in China. Together, they have two children, Nathan and Josiah. We are thrilled to have Kery as an integral part of our office team. The second person does not need an introduction for the families at the KVE campus. Julie Franzen, parent, volunteer extraordinaire, and former RCS Board member, has returned to serve on the RCS Board. Her valued perspective and long-term commitment are rich blessings for the Board and our entire community. Please join me in welcoming Julie back!

My best,

Bruce Kelly

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	Activity	Action Taken
1	Parcel Sale	Ron Dawes, State of Washington, Certified General Appraiser, and State of Washington DOR Accredited Appraiser, conducted the initial review and survey of the 35-acre parcel during January. Mr. Dawes expects the appraisal report completed by mid-February. Once completed, the second step in the abrogation process is to submit Mr. Dawes' report to Yolanda Stroud, Logistics Services Division, <i>Office of Security, Facilities & Logistics Services</i> Office of Management, U.S. Department of Education.
2	Master Plan Development	With the amount of time and energy invested with the high school relocation effort, the Master Plan is in a holding pattern. Once the relocation site is secured, the Board and President will reconnect with the vision around the multipurpose gym.
3	High School Relocation	The plan is slowly moving forward as the lease at Real Life Church expires on June 30. The Board and I have conducted two feasibility studies. We trust the Lord for a definitive answer by the end of February. Please join us in prayer for God's provision and favor.
4	Norcliffe Foundation Grant	The grant submission deadline is August 2018.
5	Auction Nights	Procurement for the auctions is underway. Please save the dates of April 13 and 14 to attend and support RCS.
6	Website Improvement and Updates	New pages, including the President's Archive and Pres. Kelly's 5 R's of Christian Education are active. New material is underway for the Alumni navigation menu. See the idea described in the 55 th Anniversary Alumni Roll Call section.
7	Outreach to Christian parents with students in public schools	The overwhelmingly feedback from first two events is encouraging. Our next outreach event is February 8th at Maple Valley Elementary. A copy of the slides and references for the presentation are available from the RCS website. See President's Page--Archive.
8	Radio Spots	Radio ads ran on KGNW, KCMS, and 100.7, The Wolf. For the two presentations, listeners heard about the events through KGNW and KCMS, but not 100.7. For the next Health and Science presentation, radio ads will run on KGNW and KCMS.

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9	55th Anniversary Alumni Roll Call Celebration and	Board member, Ed White, is spearheading the effort to reconnect alumni and capture their stories. Whether someone attended for a short time or their entire K-12 experience, we would love to hear their story. One way to organize the alumni is through a virtual family tree. The branches represent different decades since 1963. The idea is to attach names and stories like leaves to the branches. We need help to spread the word and reconnect with alumni.
10	RCS Community Impact Day Mt. 5:16	The Mayor of Auburn, Nancy Backus, and I met to discuss opportunities for our learning community to spend a day helping the city of Auburn. She offered two ideas. Join the city’s Earth Day initiative known as Clean Sweeps, where dozens of community organizations volunteer to improve the city’s appearance, landscape, etc. The second idea is for RCS exclusively to volunteer for a day later in May within the city to do good, Mt. 5:16.
11	Parent, Student, Staff Climate Surveys	The climate surveys are on track to distribute April 9-27.
12	Research Based Professional Development	<p>RCS secured \$3000 in Title II Funds from the Kent School District to pay for materials and a trainer for our August 30 in-service. The principals and teaching staff will receive an introduction to the 5 Dimensions of Teaching and Learning model developed by the University of Washington’s Center for Educational Leadership. For the 2018-19 school year, the 5D model is the major focus of professional development.</p> <p>February 20 Formative Assessment Tactics—Part 2, AM Addressing Special Needs, PM</p> <p>March 16 Content Strand Meetings AM Session— 8:30-11:15, PM Session—12:00-2:45 Four Strands: Bible, Science, English, and Technology.</p> <p>August 30 Five Dimensions of Teaching and Learning, Center for Educational Leadership. 8:00AM- 4:30PM</p>

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