



Rainier Christian Schools - Board of Directors
PO Box 58249
16707 174th Ave. SE Renton, WA 98058
425-255-7273 • 425-255-6101 (fax)
districtboard@rainierchristian.org

GENERAL MEETING - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 26, 2023 – RCHS/RCMS, 6:00pm

Type of meeting: General Board meeting with Directors and President, open to public.
Facilitator: Julie Franzen (Chair). Board Members: Mark Hargrove, Garth Gill, Tim Sica, Rick Rosenkranz (Secretary). School President: Bruce Kelly. Attendees: Alan Bulger, Wes Brown, Matthew Ahlen, Sigrid Jones, Al Stever, Drew Malone, three others in person, and fourteen online.

Board Members Absent: Dan Vander Pol (Vice Chair), Darryl D'Ambrosio (Treasurer).

The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer by Julie Franzen at 6:00pm.

President's Report – Bruce Kelly and School Principals:

LPPC – Bruce Kelly reported for Carol Meeuwse, whose grandchild (Wally) had recently suffered a serious injury (and was prayed for). LPPC and MVPC are working together to put together a Bouncy House Basket for the school auction. License renewal is in October, which means a licensor could drop in any day. Carol and Carolyn Ray are both celebrating 33 years of serving at RCS.

MVPC – Bruce reported for Patty Edwards, who was feeling under the weather. Working with LPPC to pull together a Bouncy House Basket for the auction. Monetary donations for auction materials will be done through GiveSmart, which cuts out some data entry requirements. Still in need of a qualified part-time or full-time Childcare Assistant for the afternoons, a need which becomes more critical when a current staff member takes a year-long leave in December. Enrollment is about the same as last year even though a good majority of kids graduated to Kindergarten.

MVE – Bruce Kelly reporting. Five new teachers this year. Mr. Boggs leading Chess Club both at MVE and KVE for grades 4-6. There are new instructional materials for math this year. Replaced pump house batteries and refurbished the carpet ball game for the kids. In search for an Assistant Principal, and Bruce spoke with a dean at SPU about developing an educational path for Leadership in Christian Education since there is a lack of good, qualified talent to take these kinds of positions. Recess support position is open, with a person needed by October 6th for about 4.5 hours a day. Received a nice donation from a mom whose kids attended in 1980. Passed our water testing/compliance with Cedar River Water/Sewer. Good chapel response and



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good beginning to the school year, but staff turnover has led to an enrollment decline of 20 students at MVE.

KVE – Alan Bulger reporting. Open house had attendance of ~100 people, which also led to good attendance at the first PTF meeting. Mr. Boggs is leading a Chess Club on Thursdays (Fridays at MVE). The year's first fire drill revealed that some classrooms had issues hearing/seeing that one was happening, so work will be done to fix that issue. Neither makerspace teacher returned this year; we have someone stepping in as a part-time teacher but need a full-time solution. KVE and MVE will present a combined Christmas program this year, but we need a venue for hosting 650+ people.

RCMS – Bruce Kelly reporting. Setting up a support structure for students in homeroom twice a week in which they can learn critical learning skills such as organization and study tips. First Pep Assembly was a hit. Some families/students were late in signing up for fall sports, which tend to start very early into the school year. Still in search of an Assistant Principal. Great new staff for ELA and Social Studies. The year's first chapel had a very good student response.

RCMS – Bruce Kelly reporting. Eighty students have signed up for an apologetics conference led by Josh McDowell's son Sean. Four new classes being offered: Intro to Construction and Automotive Trades, Chemistry, Spanish III, and AP US History. Mission Adventure 2024 will return to Costa Rica in April 2024, and the kids who aren't traveling will help via the Ground Crew Textile Drive to raise funds to help the kids who are. Following the trial success of the school's first internship at Corvettes of Auburn, Bruce is hoping to grow the school's internship program for each Interest and Gift Pathway (including two additional internships at CoA). All teaching positions are now filled, including an 11th hour hiring of a great PE teacher.

RCS-wide – Current enrollment of 327, which is well off from the budgeted 370.

Tech – Wes Brown and Matthew Ahlen reporting. We received almost 40 desktops from Harebrained Solutions out of Kirkland, with 18 of them going to the computer lab at RCHS/RCMS. We would like about 60 Chromebooks for use at RCHS/RCMS so teachers don't have to share or split time with the ones we have, so we are pulling together something for a Fund-a-Need at the auction in November. We also received a nice donation of document camera equipment.

Athletics – Kofi Adusei reporting. The soccer team is 2-1 and girls volleyball is 3-1, both already exceeding their win totals of last year. The golf tournament was a success, taking in ~\$8K to go towards athletics (final tally TBD). Sign-ups for middle school girls and boys basketball have begun, and we are in need of a MS boys basketball coach this winter.

Julie Franzen, Chair / Dan Vander Pol, Vice Chair

Darryl D'Ambrosio, Treasurer / Rick Rosenkranz, Secretary / Mark Hargrove / Garth Gill / Tim Sica

Rainier Christian Schools, Elementary to High School, Preschool and Childcare – Serving South King County for more than 50 years!



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HR – Sigrid Jones reporting. Open enrollment for benefits closed mid-September, with minimal “nudging” and minimal error fixes. Our medical expense forecast is 2% lower than originally forecasted due to savings incurred by increased enrollment (21 signed up vs. 15 expected). Finalizing the ADP enhancement of auto-pay to Kaiser, eliminating the manual payment currently done by Al Stever.

Finances – Al Stever reporting. July-August 2023 revenue of \$152K low because it is only revenue from Childcare/Preschools. Our net income for the same timeframe is -\$435K, slightly worse than last year’s -\$365K for the same period. Cash in bank is looking good, but the FY 23/24 forecast based on revenue of current enrollment (327) vs. projected expenses shows a projected net operating loss of -\$600K.

President’s Items – Bruce Kelly reporting:

- 1) We bought two shuttle buses from Muckleshoot preschool, well-maintained and perfect for RCS use.
- 2) The golf tournament was a success with 76 golfers. Money will go to fund Athletics. Thanks to Chuck Chartrey for stepping forward and leading the event; thanks also to Joe Pratt for serving as Tourney Leader for so many years previously.
- 3) Naome Fouts will be leading our November auction efforts this year.
- 4) Budgeted shortfall of \$600K primarily due to current enrollment of 327 being far off from the projected enrollment of 370. Preschools are down about 12 kids each, and MVE is down 20 students, along with a handful at KVE. RCMS/RCHS doing well overall. Bottom line: we need more kids!

Open discussion time with attendees:

1. A question was raised by a parent who received communication from KVE that suggested science curriculum was being cut. Alan Bulger clarified that it was only the materials/supplies that were being “cut,” which would have to be provided by parents and/or donations. (These are mostly household items that can easily be purchased/attained, avoiding the high cost charged by the curriculum publisher for those supplies.) This led to a general concern about the communication of stuff like this from staff to parents. Bruce Kelly said that any time a parent reads a communication that they question they should feel free to contact the principals for clarification.
2. A question was raised about the Christmas program’s lack of venue, if parents should help find a place, like at their church. Alan Bulger replied, “Yes, please.” So any help would be appreciated.



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Minutes Approval:

Approval of August 2023 Executive Minutes. Rick Rosenkranz made a motion to approve the August 2023 Executive Minutes; Julie Franzen seconded. Executive minutes approved as revised/submitted by unanimous vocal vote.

General session closed at 7:25pm with prayer by Bruce.

NOTE – The next meeting is on Monday, not Tuesday, because of Halloween the last Tuesday of October.

Next General Board Meeting: Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6:00pm – KVE.

We will also use Google Meets to provide an online/remote option.