

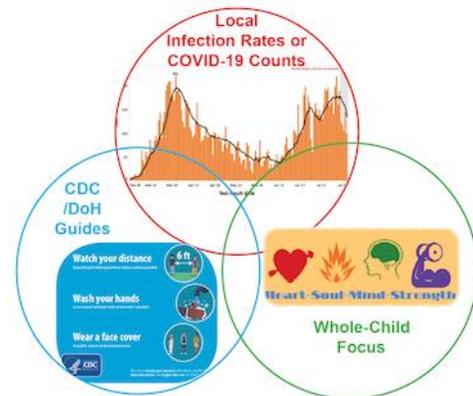


Dear RCS Families,

September, 2020

Welcome to the start of the 2020-21 school year! The Lord is to be praised for allowing us to open on September 9. To our returning families, thank you for your commitment to our educational ministry. Your steadfast support greatly encouraged our staff and administrative team. Amazingly, over the last two months, RCS welcomed more than 100 new students to our preK-12th grade programs. To our new families, I look forward to meeting you during my weekly campus visits, at a Board meeting, prayer meeting, or during another activity. I trust you will sense a warm reception at RCS. May you feel supported by the staff and the other families walking through a similar life stage. The wisdom of practice shared across our learning community offers remarkable support and inspiration.

When in-person learning begins on September 9, full cooperation with our Safe Reopen plan is expected. There are three spheres of influence framing our plan: local infection rates or COVID-19 counts, the ability to adhere to CDC/DoH guidelines, and our whole-child focus. A complete explanation of the plan was published in the [August president's letter](#). In effect, our plan straddles the golden mean between a



child's physical health and their emotional/social needs. Additionally, the building principals published detailed site plans for their campuses. Their detailed plans address arrival protocols and align with CDC/DoH guidelines. Please review your child's campus plan prior to September 9. Your cooperation enables us to keep our staff, students, and families as safe as possible.

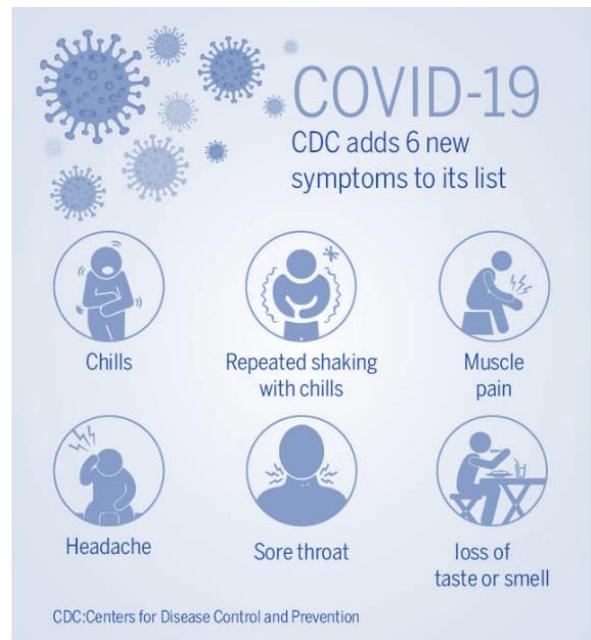
Working as a community, and in compliance with health guidance, our plans and protocols mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. Below are the five ways parents will partner with us to keep our learning community safe.

Five Ways to Support RCS Staff Members and the School Community

- 1) Keep students with any illness at home.
- 2) Notify school office of family contact with confirmed/suspected COVID-19.

Does your student have any of the following symptoms?

- o A cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o A fever of 100.4°F or higher
- o A sore throat
- o Chills
- o New loss of taste or smell
- o Muscle or body aches
- o Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- o Congestion/running nose – not related to seasonal allergies
- o Unusual fatigue



- 3) Do not provide student with medication to reduce a fever before coming to school.
- 4) Wear face coverings while on school grounds and honor social-distancing rule.

- 5) Stay informed by reading school and district communication.

Please contact your child's school if there are questions about the campus plans. If there are questions about our Safe Reopen plan, please contact me, bruce.kelly@rainierchristian.org.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, attention to our plans, and continued prayer for God's favor and protection.

September 9 is a big day for another reason. September 9 at 3:00pm marks the final opportunity to register for the Booster Club Golf Tournament. The tournament on Saturday, **September 19, 2020** enjoys the generosity of our platinum sponsor, **Oak Harbor Freight Lines.**

Oak Harbor Freight Lines' donation secured the



Washington National course in Auburn. Thank you! Oak Harbor



Freight Lines did their part, and now it is time to complete the easy sign-up and registration process, linked here, [Golf Tournament Registration](#).

Business owners, take advantage of the available promotion levels to publicize your business at [Golf Sponsorship Opportunities](#), or contact Joe Pratt, joseph.c.pratt@live.com. The tournament will adhere to the CDC guidelines to keep everyone safe. Enjoy fellowship at one of



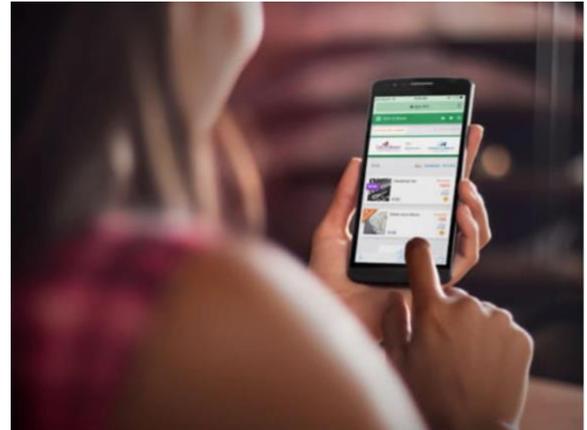
our region's finest golf courses. All proceeds directly support our athletics program and sports-of-the-mind teams. Space is limited, so register today. I look forward to



seeing you at Washington National!

On the Tuesday night before school starts, September 8, please accept my invitation for the next president's prayer meeting via Zoom. From 6:30pm-7:00pm, the time of prayer is dedicated to reopening school, our community, and families. Prayer plays a critical and historical role with RCS. The prayer time is open to parents, students, staff, and alumni. Simply click on the following hyperlink to access the [president's prayer meeting](#). The educational ministry of RCS thrives because we depend on God's grace working through our faith.

Last year, our auction coordinator extraordinaire, Sarah Rickel, took a leap of faith and shifted our signature fundraiser, the annual auction, into an online event. The online auction proved wildly successful with the proceeds directed to teacher raises and a new K-6 English Language Arts curriculum. Once again, a large formal event is not possible given the county's restrictions. Therefore, Sarah and her team will host the fall auction via an online format. Mark your calendars for October 30th through November 7th. Sarah's efforts include three action and information items for your review.



- Any help with procuring donations is greatly appreciated and counts toward your volunteer hours.
- If you or you know someone who owns their own business and would like to donate a gift card or services, contact Sarah Rickel, sarah.rickel@rainierchristian.org
- The basket turnaround time is shortened this year - please stay tuned for information from your teacher the first week of school.

In closing, I have spent considerable time with the principals, directors, and staff over the last few weeks. There is one unmistakable quality surfacing in those conversations and interactions. Excitement! The RCS staff is overly excited to see your children return to school. With them, I feel blessed that we are able to provide in-person and remote learning experiences. Children learn best when high-quality relationships shape their learning outcomes. Thank you for choosing to partner with us. Your support, encouragement, and prayer mean a lot to me and our entire staff.

For our new families, thank you for doing your homework and taking a step of faith to join the RCS community. Psalm 127:3-5 may capture one of the reasons behind your decision.

“Don’t you see that children are God’s best gift?

The fruit of the womb his generous legacy?

Like a warrior’s fistful of arrows are

the children of a vigorous youth.

Oh, how blessed are you

parents

with your quivers

full of children!”

I trust the mission of RCS and our nurturing staff will richly support the legacy parents desire for their children.

My best,

Bruce Kelly



president, Rainier Christian Schools

