



Dear RCS Families,

April, 2021

Hello, may this holy week of Easter lavishly bless you and your family! By God’s grace, I am thankful for our stellar track record of in-person learning since September 9. However, three campuses recently have felt the shadow of positive COVID cases. The origins were traced to individuals outside of the schools. My hunch is people dropped their guard, are tired of pandemic protocols, or a combination of both.



Please know every closure zaps administrator’s energy, demoralizes staff, and frustrates parents who must make last-minute adjustments. No one can control the timing of lab results. Therefore, a jolt of bad news scrambles the administrative staff to prepare and deliver communication during odd hours, and ostensibly, creates unwelcome inconveniences.

For all positive cases, the latest CDC guidance is followed for contact tracing. At face value, our response may appear varied. This is due to the unique fact patterns found within contact-tracing scenarios. In one instance, a student who had close contact



with the entire cohort quarantined the whole group. Another instance was triggered by someone with close contact with a subset of students but not others.

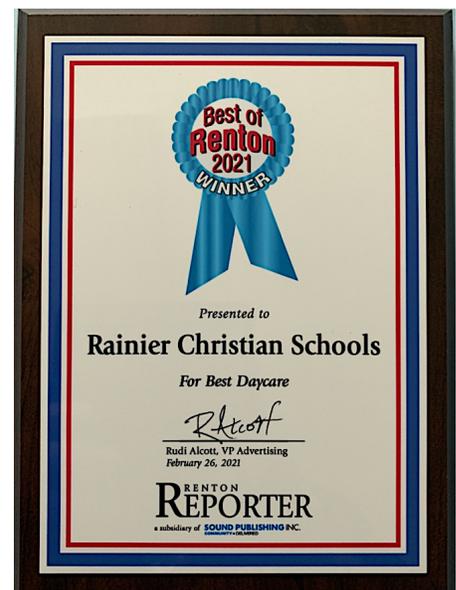
A final challenge for the administrative team is hurdling the ongoing revisions to CDC guidance. Getting the communication right means relaying the latest directives.

For example, the CDC's March 12 update changed the quarantine timeline for suspected positive cases, and added new language about vaccinations.

While the staff faithfully adheres to health guidelines, when others do not, the impact circle is significant. Our amazing teachers, support staff, and administrators act in good faith to keep the educational-ministry doors open. When we are required to quarantine for a positive case, it can feel like sabotage. Thankfully, no one in the recent wave of COVID cases fell gravely ill.

Like all parents, I desire in-person learning every day. Please help us finish the year strong and in-person. That approach offers the best learning environment for kids. Thank you in advance for your full cooperation with the CDC guidelines during Easter break and for the remainder of the school year. Mask up, stay safe, stay socially distant, and think about other families and staff members if pandemic fatigue dulls decision making.

O.K. let's sashay onto more pleasant topics. A wonderful accolade, sponsored by the Renton Reporter's Best of Renton, goes to Rainier Christian Schools! A staff member from the Reporter presented the plaque, shown at right, to Maple Valley campus director, Dave Glass. The Maple Valley Preschool and Childcare team deserves a round of applause for winning *The Best Daycare* in 2021. Bravo! Over 5,100 people participated in the survey of products and services between November 2 through December 31, 2020. Well done, Rainier Christian Schools and the staff at Maple Valley Preschool and Childcare!



A big thank you is due to those who signed up for the Garage Sale and Fireworks Security Detail. Both opportunities satisfy the 15-hour volunteer requirement in less than a day. The final day to sign-up for the garage sale is **Friday, April 16**. There are two shifts unfilled for the fireworks stand, June 29 and 30. The sign-ups are linked separately here:

[Garage Sale Sign-Up Form](#)

[Fireworks Security Detail Sign-Up Form](#)



For the garage sale option, pick a sunny Saturday and sell your



unwanted belongings from 8:00am -1:00pm.

The proceeds flow toward our financial-aid program with 10% directed to Seattle's Union Gospel Mission. The firework's security detail is an overnight shift from 10pm to 6am. Also, consider the monthly prayer meeting to fulfill the requirement in one-half-hour increments. Access the next prayer meeting on [April 13 at 6:30pm here.](#)

There are two additional volunteer-hour opportunities during Easter break. Tuesday April 6 from 3pm-6pm and Wednesday, April 7 from 9am-12 pm are dedicated to the KVE gym, wall-pad installation project. Hooray!

Each wall pad is 2' x 8' and there are 36 to install. Are your skilled at driving 1½" wood screws, prepping surfaces for paint, or are handy and like to help? Please sign up today through the following link, [Gym Wall Pad Project.](#)



In closing, I pose a fresh and timely question. What does Easter mean to you and to your family? Over the last week, I reviewed Old Testament and New Testament passages, but landed on 1 Corinthians 15:52-57 for a holy exchange of inspiration.

⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. ⁵⁴ But when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and this mortal puts on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written: “Death has been swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ Where, O Death, is your victory? Where, O Death, is your sting?” ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law; ⁵⁷ but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray the victory of the Lord Jesus’ resurrection finds a way into our heart, mind, and spirit. May God’s grace and goodness lavishly bless you and your family this Easter.

My best,

Bruce Kelly

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president, Rainier Christian Schools

