

Dear RCS Family,

March 2020

Congratulations are in order to the boys' basketball team. The Mustang men posted a regular-season record of 19-5, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Tri-District League Championship, and now, defend their way into the State playoffs ranked as the 7<sup>th</sup> best team. Next

Wednesday at 10:30am, RCHS challenges #10, Almira-Coulee-Hartline, in Spokane.

The winner advances to play on Thursday.



2020 WIAA 1B Boys Regional Playoffs &			
Info	Seeds	Bracket	Schedule
<b>Fri, Feb 28 - Sat, Mar 7 Spokane Arena</b>			
<b>Feb. 28 or 29 REGIONALS</b>		<b>March 4 STATE</b>	
#1	8 Oakesdale 1 Odessa	#9	Winner #7 Loser #3
#2	7 Rainier Chr 61 2 Yakama Tribal 71	#10	10 Almira-Coulee-H 7 Rainier Chr
#3	6 Muckleshoot Tri 3 Lummi Nation	#11	Winner #8 Loser #4
#4	5 Naselle 4 Riverside Chr	#12	9 Taholah Loser #1
#5	16 Mount Vernon Ch 58 9 Taholah 68	#13	Winner #9 Winner #4
#6	15 Sunnyside Chr 51 10 Almira-Coulee-H 55	#14	Winner #10 Winner #1
#7	14 Chief Kitsap Ac 11 Garfield-Palous	#15	Winner #11 Winner #3
#8	13 Selkirk 12 Tacoma Baptist	#16	Winner #12 2 Yakama Tribal

Depending on Wednesday's outcome, expect extra messaging from the high school about Rainier Christian's progress and for ways to cheer the team on. Go Mustangs! 

Rainier Christian Schools values athletics as a platform for Christian discipleship, sportsmanship, teamwork, managing disappointment, and winning graciously. Learning through sports underscores New-Testament, athletic metaphors regarding faith and perseverance. Can you sense the perspiration dripping off 1Cor. 9:24-27, Gal. 2:2, 5:7, Php. 2:16, 2Tim. 4:7-8, and Heb. 12:1? As an athlete, these verses seem to leap off the page and add to our faith.

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Likewise, training and competition underscore the biblical principles of hard work, Pro.14: 23, strength in adversity, Pro. 24:10, and sowing and reaping, Gal. 6:7.

A key advantage of Rainier Christian's athletic program compared to a larger system is the degree of participation on the court, field, or course. As a student athlete, memory-making moments occur during a relatively small window of time. Confidence building, a teamwork mindset, and skill building may not have the opportunity to blossom elsewhere. As I close the topic of athletics, I want to switch lanes from athletes to coaches. Specifically, I want to thank Mr. Brian Christian, (KVE/RCMS P.E. teacher extraordinaire), for stepping out of coaching retirement to lead the lady Mustang's fast-pitch team. Mr. Christian made it possible to field a very promising and competitive girls' team within the SeaTac 1B league.



### **RCS Annual Auction Nears**

Please mark your calendars for April 24 and 25 to attend our signature fundraisers of the year. The silent auction on Friday evening enjoys a causal atmosphere at Black Diamond Camps with lots of conversations. It's a great way to reconnect, bid on a large assortment of fun and personalized gifts, and support our high-school students earning money for their senior trip. Each high-school class serves differently.



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Students of the senior class offer dinner for purchase, juniors provide child care, and sophomores dish up a platter of sumptuous desserts.

The masquerade party on Saturday evening features a fresh venue, the



Fairwood Golf and Country Club. Another wrinkle for this year is the option for mobile bidding on selected items—during Saturday night only. Wear your favorite mask and register [here!](#) Once again, auction coordinator superstar, Sarah Rickel, and her amazing team continue their efforts to make both evenings wildly successful.

### **Board Leadership Transition**

After nearly five years of distinguished support and service, Mr. Kent Bruce announced he is stepping down as Chair of the RCS Board of Directors. Mr. Bruce's long-standing commitment guided RCS through a change in Rainier Christian's Superintendent and numerous improvements. He prepared a written statement copied below in its entirety.



“On behalf the entire Board of Rainier Christian Schools I wanted to take a moment and bring you up to date on some changes to our Board structure. After four years of serving as the Chair of the Board, I have decided it is time to pass the baton. Julie Franzen will now be your Chair and Steve Pope will be the Vice Chair. Both of them have years of experience in the school and will do a wonderful job maintaining the duties of your school Board. In addition to Rick Rosenkranz, Dan Vander Pol, and Mark Hargrove, I will continue to serve as a Board member. It has been a pleasure to have served as the Chair and may God continue to bless Rainier Christian Schools.”  
Kent Bruce



While his shoes are impossible to fill, Ms. Julie Franzen, was unanimously voted in during an executive session to assume Chair of the Board of Directors, effective March 1. Ms. Franzen’s long-term familiarity with the district as a parent and Board member offers invaluable continuity and support for Rainier Christian Schools. Ms. Franzen prepared a short bio as a way to introduce herself.

“Julie has been an active supporter and volunteer in the Rainier Christian School District since 2004 serving on the Kent View PTF as Secretary, Treasurer, and as President. Most recently, she has served on the RCS Board of Directors since early 2018 and prior to that in 2015 and 2016. In her professional life, Julie is the Airbus Fleet Program Manager at Alaska Airlines where she supports the pilots through development and maintenance of aircraft procedures and operational manuals. At home she is wife to Scott and mom to Hunter (21) who graduated from RCS in 2016 and Chase (13) who is attending the Middle School. She graduated summa cum laude from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with a BS in Aviation Business Administration.”



Please join me in thanking Mr. Bruce for his leadership, service, and commitment to RCS. Let’s welcome Ms. Franzen and Mr. Pope to their new leadership roles!

2019-2020 Board of Directors			
 <p><b>Julie Franzen</b> Board Chair <a href="mailto:julie.franzen@rainierchristian.org">julie.franzen@rainierchristian.org</a> Calvary Chapel South Favorite Verse: Joshua 1:9</p>	 <p><b>Steve Pope</b> Vice Chair <a href="mailto:steve.pope@rainierchristian.org">steve.pope@rainierchristian.org</a> Lake Sawyer Church Favorite Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6</p>	 <p><b>Kent Bruce</b> <a href="mailto:kent.bruce@rainierchristian.org">kent.bruce@rainierchristian.org</a> Lake Sawyer Church Favorite Verses: Matthew 7:13-14</p>	
 <p><b>Mark Hargrove</b> <a href="mailto:mark.hargrove@rainierchristian.org">mark.hargrove@rainierchristian.org</a> Lake Sawyer Church Favorite Verse: Romans 8:28</p>	 <p><b>Rick Rosenkranz</b> <a href="mailto:rick.rosenkranz@rainierchristian.org">rick.rosenkranz@rainierchristian.org</a> Hillside Church of Kent Favorite Verses: Matt. 11:28-30</p>	 <p><b>Dan Vander Pol</b> <a href="mailto:dan.vanderpol@rainierchristian.org">dan.vanderpol@rainierchristian.org</a> New Life Church Favorite Verse: Romans 8:28</p>	

## For Parents Update

As touted in last month's letter, our website resource, [For Parents](#), addresses a new topic: *Digital Distractions, Modeling, and Implications for Parents, Kids, and Families*.

The ideas and robust resources under this topic include Eric Pickersgill's project,

“Removed.” Mr. Pickersgill photoshopped away the smartphones and digital devices from portraits of everyday life. The Removed project offers an external vantage point to view ourselves and the interactions within our families. Other supports feature key questions, answers, and links to relevant research. For example,



- How much screen time is OK for my kid(s)?
- How much screen time is too much for my kids?
- Should we explore/discuss a Family Media Agreement?

If you know of a friend or neighbor looking for help on this subject, please let them know about our complimentary resource, [For Parents](#).

### Index of Resources—For Parents

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Submit a new topic or question to: [bruce.kelly@rainierchristian.org](mailto:bruce.kelly@rainierchristian.org)



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I would like to acknowledge and thank a small group of people making a difference for Rainier Christian Schools. They're a remarkable cohort of alumni and current parents who work for the Boeing company, and participate in the company's match program for non-profits. Collectively, their contributions covered all the new signage popping up across the district. The next wave of giving is earmarked for an extreme makeover of the Kent View gymnasium. Beginning this summer, the gym's interior and exterior, along with improvement for the gym's acoustics move to the top of our project list. When students and families return in September, we'll host an Open-House style barbeque to celebrate God's provision. Thank you for supporting RCS through the company match program.



A heartfelt thank you is also due to our prayer partners. I wanted to follow up on the prayer requests mentioned in January's letter. In January, the Board studied a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the 35-acre parcel adjacent to the Maple Valley campus. After a round of negotiations, the Board and the buyer reached an agreement. The sale of the parcel is contingent upon our 4:1 application to King County and the preliminary plat approval. I continue to meet with the county officials about the application and know the Lord is attentive to our prayer. While it is difficult to pinpoint, I feel the political headwind from King County. Pray for God's favor.

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Related to our vision for the future, there is another development from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, that affects the Kent View campus. For over a decade, FEMA promised a revision to the region's floodplain map. The revision significantly impacts our parcel. I would like to thank **Darrell and Doug Donovan** from Donovan Brothers Inc., and **Dan Balmelli** with Barghausen Consulting

Engineers, for helping us in conversations with the city of Auburn. The topological LIDAR map, shown at right, reveals flood plain changes and potential mitigation for



construction projects at the Maple Valley site, i.e., the proposed Multipurpose Event Center. The Board and I ask for wisdom as we pursue next steps.

My final prayer request is for the protection of our students, staff, and families. The risk for Coronavirus, COVID 19, remains low as monitored from the WA State Department of Health website. Should any RCS family become aware of symptoms related to COVID 19, please take necessary precautions, and notify your campus administrator immediately. If there is a reason to contact our community, the announcement will be sent via FlashAlert. For the immediate future, I continue to monitor COVID 19 updates on a daily basis.



Thank you for reading this far. It's been a busy season, and I suspect the busyness will continue right through the end of the school year. Next month, Good Friday marks the beginning of our Easter Week break. I look forward to rejoicing in the Good News of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. *"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying."*

Jn. 11:35.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce Kelly  
President, Rainier Christian Schools

