



January 31, 2020

Thank you very much to all the alumni who joined us for our second listening session on Saturday, January 25, at the World Forestry Center moderated by Svava Brooks, an abuse survivor coach. We listened, we heard you, and we were moved by your courage and your willingness to support others.

For those of you who weren't able to join us last Saturday, we are finalizing a date for a virtual gathering for alumni outside of Portland and will share out that date once it is confirmed.

We also want to provide you with the handouts that were distributed at the gathering. These documents are available [here](#) and provide details on our *Supports for Survivors and Alumni*; *Safety Supports and Programs for Students*; *Catlin Gabel Therapy Fund*; and *School Culture Task Force*.

As you will see in the link, the Catlin Gabel Therapy Fund, administered by RAINN, will be available beginning March 16, 2020. The fund will provide alumni with financial assistance (up to \$10,000 total per individual) for current and past therapy costs related to sexual abuse by former school employees.

In addition, we wanted to share a few themes that emerged from Saturday's gathering:

Alumni-driven listening sessions. Alumni want to continue listening sessions with each other and with a therapist independently from the school. We are looking at ways of partnering with alumni to help support their efforts.

Law enforcement investigation. We reached out to both the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Washington County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) to share our findings, and we've been working closely with them ever since. Now that the WCSO has an active investigation, we've been asked to wait to share additional findings until law enforcement's work is complete. We are honoring that request.

Next steps. We are forming a culture task force, which will include external professionals as well as alumni that will, independent from administration, examine our history and our current culture to help inform ways we can continue to improve the school. We will invite RAINN to review our current safety policies and programs. We also received input from alumni on other services to further enhance our safety curriculum taught to students.

We also wanted to let you know that we are continuing to evaluate our campus spaces to better reflect our values today. In the Middle School, the classroom "Treasure Island" is being renamed "Labyrinth" in honor of Ann Fyfield, a former Catlin Gabel faculty member who exemplifies the school's mission, vision, and values. The word "labyrinth" was one of her favorites. "Treasure Island" was originally named by a former teacher identified in the investigation report, and the school decided to rename the classroom. Other changes may be made, as well, as we seek to honor the wishes of our survivors.

Please know we are committed to acknowledging our past, meeting the needs of our survivors and other alumni, and taking the necessary steps to ensure a healthy future for the school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bart Eberwein".

Bart Eberwein
Chair of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Bazemore".

Tim Bazemore
Head of School