

Weekly Eagle News – Head of Schools

My Favorite Parents:

There is so much for which to be grateful to God! I thought this week I would just highlight some of those items and remind all of us about the importance of gratitude.

1. So grateful to God that we were able to get gifts or pledges to fulfill the \$300,000 challenge match that we received for the middle school gym project. We were able to raise the \$630,000 needed for the project in just 45 days. God is good! We anticipate completing construction before the upcoming school year.
2. I am grateful for our teachers and their work with students. Ultimately, the fulfillment of the mission of this school occurs because teachers have a calling from God and the ability to fulfill that calling through their professional excellence. They love on our students. They seek to open hearts and minds to understand the world that is around us.
3. While we are just beginning the re-enrollment process, we have strong interest and applications for the openings that we will have in the preschool, lower school, middle school and upper school. Application numbers are tracking closely with last year. Because we are near capacity on both lower and middle school campuses, we anticipate enrollment being fairly flat this coming year. Please encourage your friends and family to jump into this process if they are looking for outstanding Christian education for their children.
4. We have implemented a new chaplain referral system to ensure that students who are struggling with emotional, social or spiritual issues are able to get on-campus help. Obviously, we will continue to use the outside Christian counselor referrals for the more serious issues. We have also been able to pivot on the social/emotional support options for students when the CBU partnership did not materialize this year. MS and US campuses are offering group counseling sessions provided by an outside Christian counseling agency. On the lower school campus, we have rolled out a bi-weekly Christian character/social wellness curriculum that pushes into the classrooms for 30 minute sessions.
5. Saturday, March 2nd, is our annual Cornerstone Gala, our single largest fundraiser and source of funding for our financial aid programs. I am so grateful to God that a donor has offered to match every gift given during our "Raise the Paddle" portion of the evening. This event goes a long way toward covering the \$2.1 MM that we will give away in financial aid to support students and families who could not afford the school without a little help. Here is a [link for more information](#).
6. I talked casually with a parent this week whose son had had a rough start to the year. As she reflected on the fact that our students are not perfect (none are), she also shared about the impact of teachers and the restored/developed relationships that have emerged for her son. My gratitude here is for the reality that situations resolve, our students grow and mature, and the Holy Spirit is at work in the hearts of young people. I am sure this is just one of many who can be grateful for what they have seen in their children this year.

Gratitude is such a powerful action. Join me in thanking God for all he is doing at Redlands Christian Schools.

Have a great week.

Brian