

September 12, 2025

Friends of Cristo Rey,

It has been an exciting start to the school year at 1717 W. Allegheny Avenue. We've been in session just shy of a month now and our students are thriving. Over the last few weeks, our young people have started school, were drafted by our amazing Job Partners during our Annual Signing Day, visited their job placements accompanied by faculty and staff, resumed their academic routines, participated in our Celebration of the Holy Spirit, engaged with our first ever Fuel Up Friday, and started their Work-Study jobs! Please see below for some photos and videos of the last few weeks!

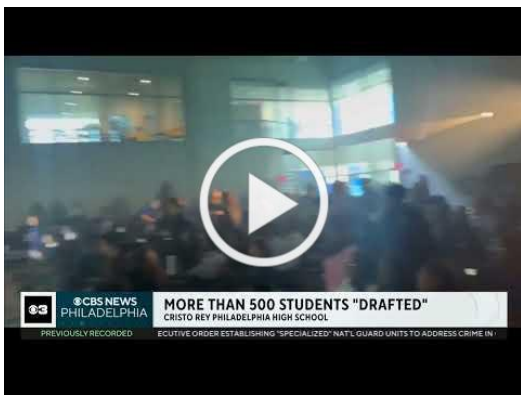
On August 19th, 519 students walked back into 1717 and were greeted by the cheers and smiles of our Faculty & Staff.



On August 20th, students began Semester 1 of this academic year with their new teachers, subjects, and an unmatched eagerness to learn. Additionally, the Class of 2029 shared their We Lead video with our community.



On August 25th, Job Partners, supervisors, and students, alike, celebrated Work-Study placements at Signing Day!



On August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, students met with their teams and toured their job sites accompanied by Faculty and Staff for our Site Visit Days.



On August 28, learning resumed in full force.

On September 2, first days of work began! Each class went to work for the first time on their respective workday to begin the school year.

On September 5, we gathered as a school community for the Celebration of the Holy Spirit, a Jesuit tradition dating back to the 1400s. We have begun every school year since 2012 with this prayer service. We heard student reflections, prayed together, and asked the Holy Spirit to guide us through the upcoming year.

New to Cristo Rey Philadelphia this year, we are hosting Fuel Up Friday to close every week! Our Juniors kicked off this year's rotation and participated in Community Meetings in the morning, followed by a wellness session and lunch. The afternoon was spent across the city at our Grad @ Grad and Service Track locations. We're excited about this change to our experiential learning model and are sure each class to come will enjoy their first Fuel Up Friday!



And finally, this past Monday, CBS 3 went live from Cristo Rey Philadelphia to showcase the very first day of work for the Freshman class!



Some might say that we're busy over here at Cristo Rey Philadelphia, but this is simply our mission coming to life! Today, the entire school honored the academic achievements of Semester 2 of the 2024-2025 School Year at our Fall Honors' Convocation. We are grateful for the chance to do this work every single day in partnership with you! We understand that we wouldn't be able to do so without the support of our donors, our endorsers, our partners – Work-Study, Grad @ Grad, Service Track, and more! We are proud to nurture and challenge our students to recognize and realize their full potential every day and are blessed to do it alongside all of you. The magic and movement don't stop at Cristo Rey Philadelphia, so we hope to have you visit and be a part of the action in the coming months!

In Blue Pride,

Tom Shoemaker  
President & CEO  
Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School



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