CRISTO REY
PHILADELPHIA
HIGH SCHOOL

President's Newsletter

June 26, 2026

Dear Friends of Cristo Rey,

We were excited to finish our 14th year of successfully educating students at Cristo Rey Philadelphia with a busy June! Our Senior Week celebrations began with our annual Work-Study Sendoff and Baccalaureate Ceremony and closed with Commencement at St. Joseph's University's Hagan Arena. Just two weeks ago, we closed out the year with our last day of school, Day 200, and our final team meeting!

While addressing our Faculty and Staff at our team meeting, I expressed great appreciation for their hard work and dedication to our mission. The palpable excitement and joy at graduation is a direct result of their commitment to our young people. I was blessed to witness the achievements of the Class of 2026 alongside our team, Board of Trustees, and families and friends, but was most impressed by the graduating class' desire to celebrate each other. Not only were they thrilled about their own accomplishments, they were also extremely proud of those of their classmates. That was a beautiful thing to witness.



As I continue to reflect on the year, moments both big and small come back to me - the smiles on the first day of school, our Junior SAT Day, the flag walk at Multicultural Day. Each and every day, we are nurturing and challenging our students to recognize and realize their full potential, because of your support. In my final note of our 14th year, I'd like to share a few student and adult achievements that speak directly to our mission.

Robotics
While our Robotics program has been a longstanding tradition at Cristo Rey Philadelphia, this year, six of our students joined a community robotics team in West Philadelphia at the TGR Foundation Learning Lab. Tiger Robotics designed, tested, and built a fully operational robot in order to compete in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition. They also managed the logistics of a business plan, annual budget, and marketing initiatives!

As a first year team, Tiger Robotics was selected as the Rookie All Star Award recipient for both the local and district level. This award "celebrates the rookie team exemplifying a young but strong partnership

effort, as well as implementing the mission of *FIRST* to inspire students to learn more about science and technology." By winning the accolade, Tiger Robotics earned a trip to *FIRST* Robotics World Championships in Houston, Texas. Our students competed and collaborated with students from over 66 countries. While there, Tiger Robotics earned yet another award, World Championship Rising All Star. This award "celebrates the team that has persisted through challenges, despite the difficulties of being young."



Our students showed incredible dedication and resilience to make it to the world's stage. I am grateful for the leadership from faculty member Jack Doyle, Head Coach and TGR Learning Lab staff member Adam Mesewicz, and the TGR Foundation for their support!

Cristo Rey Network Outrageously Bold Hope Awardee

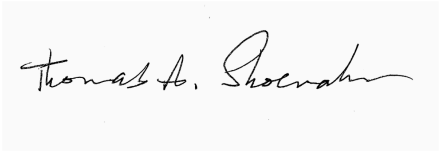


Just a year ago, the Cristo Rey Network implemented the Outrageously Bold Hope Award. Given to educators in every school across the country, the Outrageously Bold Hope Award celebrates exemplary performance and outstanding results, all while staying dedicated to the following message from the Cristo Rey Credo… "May we have faith in a dream so ambitious as to border on the delusional with a healthy disregard for conventional thinking. May our hope be so **outrageously bold** that we are afraid people will laugh at us if they knew what we hoped for!"

This year's awardee is Ms. Latoya White. Also celebrating 10 years of service to Cristo Rey Philadelphia, Latoya is the heart and soul of our community. From Working daily with our Freshmen on their entry to the workplace in their Freshman Seminar class to staying after school to celebrate our Student-Athletes or join in on the Horizons fun, Latoya is the definition of a servant-leader. A dedicated member of our Work-Study team, she is always encouraging our young professionals both in and out of the classroom. As she said after receiving this honor, "It's all about them." Our entire community of educators is better for working alongside Latoya in our mission.

Our school year is filled with achievements of our students and educators! While it has come to a close, the summer is going to be a busy one for our community. Our Horizons programming began this week and Summer Bridge will take place for the Class of 2030 the first two weeks of July. I hope your summer is off to a wonderful start, but if you find yourself with a respite in your summer plans, we'd love to have you visit our campus.

With Outrageously Bold Hope,



Tom Shoemaker
President & CEO
Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School

P.S. - Four members of our Track & Field team represented Blue Pride Athletics in the 4 x 800m at Adidas Nationals last week in Greensboro, NC! They took 7th place as our first ever competitors at Nationals!



Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School | 1717 West Allegheny Avenue | Philadelphia, PA 19132 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!