

September 2026



CRISTO REY KANSAS CITY

A SISTERS OF CHARITY OF LEAVENWORTH HIGH SCHOOL

- One Team, One Mission -



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

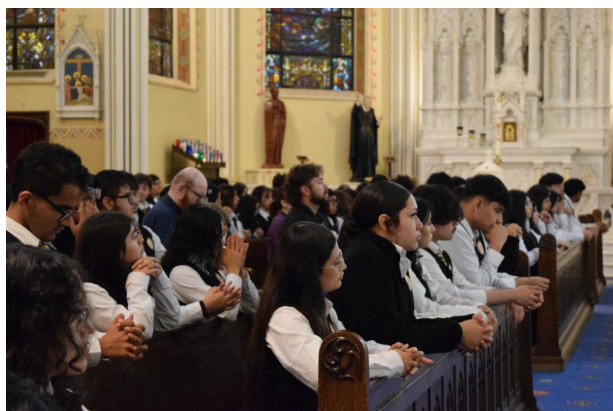
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month!



In September, our Cristo Rey KC community came together for a special student assembly celebrating the rich cultures and traditions of Hispanic Heritage Month. Student Council brought the celebration to life with a flag parade, a presentation on the tradition and significance of quinceañeras, and traditional dances—including folklórico performances. We're proud to celebrate the cultures, traditions and stories that make our CRKC community so special!

Students Volunteer at Schoolwide Mass





Faculty, staff, and students attended September's schoolwide Mass, a meaningful time to slow down and reflect. Our students also volunteered as ushers for the first time this school year, and our choir led the church in song. We're grateful for these moments that give our students and staff space to pause amid busy school days and reflect on what matters most to each of us.

The Media Room & Library: A Huge Hit for Students! Plus, Our Library Book Drive Is Now Live!



Our students have taken to the new Media Room and Library nearly every day since its opening. There, they experiment with graphic design, 3D printing, video editing, and other tech tools. In the

Library, we've even heard reports of intense chess matches! We're grateful to the donors who have made special moments like these possible.

Interested in donating a book to our Library? Please send the book to our address at 211 W. Linwood Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64111; or, click the button below to see our book wish list!

[Buy a Book for Our Library!](#)

Corporate Work Study Students Out in the Community!



These students were all spotted on the job by Cristo Rey KC board members! We love seeing our students out in the community—and we love even more when members of our CRKC community get to connect with them along the way!

Cristo Rey KC in the Independent!

ON A High Note

CRISTO REY KANSAS CITY

WELCOME BACK!

BACKPACKS, BOOKS, AND BIG DREAMS

Melissa, Amy, Ashah, Joely, Marlene, and Isabella were ready for a new year at Cristo Rey!

- ☒ Uniforms!
- ☒ Backpacks!
- ☒ Balloons!
- ☒ First Day of School!

Cristo Rey Kansas City welcomed students back to school for the 2026-2027 school year with signature purple and gold balloons and smiles all around! We wish these ladies and all of the Cristo Rey students a fun and productive school year. Go Pumas!

kinddependent.com | September 24, 2025 | 127 Years of Tradition | 7th Independent | 23

DEDICATION AT EVERY TURN *By Anne Palmer Rose*

It's a bit of a leap, metaphorically and literally, from the C-suite at Commerce Bank to the dance floor of Cristo Rey KC's Dancing with the Kansas City Stars, but Kevin Barth, CEO and tripper of the light fantastic, managed to make the leap with dedication, determination, and some serious style!

When Cristo Rey KC came calling and asked Kevin to be one of their dancing stars, he hesitated for a couple of reasons. He needed to learn more about the school, and he needed to brush up his dancing skills, or as he put it, "I had to take dancing lessons for weeks!" Kevin had attended the 2025 dancing gala as a guest, and while he thoroughly enjoyed the experience, he felt he needed to dig deeper into the mission and vision of the midtown school. As he accepted the challenge of dancing for a cause, he also visited the school and really became acquainted with the administration, the educators, and the students, themselves. He witnessed the dedication of the teachers and the kids and their ability to do hard things. He figured if they could commit to working so hard, he could, too.

"As Kevin's quest for, and achievement of, dancing skills grew, so did his appreciation for what the students go through. Dancers must be vulnerable and willing to take risks, just as the students are."

Kevin Barth, CEO/Comptroller

The mission and vision he discovered are inspiring to not only Kevin, but so many others as well. Cristo Rey KC is an affordable, Catholic, college-preparatory high school committed to academic excellence for students of all faiths. It also provides career prep education, which is enhanced by an innovative corporate work study program to culturally diverse ambitious students with economic need. Every Cristo Rey KC student is required to participate in the Corporate Work Study Program in which students work in a professional setting one day a week. Students' earnings from business partners contribute to a large portion of their tuition. With rigorous academics, a full student life, athletics, and the work-study program, Cristo Rey KC provides a crucial opportunity for students to learn and succeed.

As Kevin's quest for, and achievement of, dancing skills grew, so did his appreciation for what the students go through. Dancers must be vulnerable and willing to take risks, just as the students are. A demonstration of commitment and an investment in the future is applicable to both, and not taken for granted by either. Kevin's commitment was to be the best dancer he could be, while having a blast, and supporting the cause he had come to appreciate so deeply. While it was certainly fun at every turn and reward, and rewarding to be a part of the celebration, Kevin's true desire is for the people of Kansas City to become aware of the process at Cristo Rey KC.

The incredible dancers at Cristo Rey KC's Dancing with the Kansas City Stars 2026

The key to success for the students is the willingness of local businesses to open their hearts and doors to the kids in the work-study program. While Commerce Bank is now involved in the process and provides opportunities, Kevin's wish is that more businesses, large and small, will make the offer to host Cristo Rey KC's hardworking and dedicated students. Community involvement is key. Currently, 100 percent of students graduate with four years of work experience; 85 percent are first-generation high school graduates, and 60 percent of graduates remain enrolled in college. Cristo Rey students have worked approximately 54,600 hours over the past 14 years, and have earned over \$800,000 towards the cost of their education.

Dancing with the Kansas City Stars has been around for 20 years, raising much-needed funds for the school, and the 2026 gala added \$1.7 million to the impressive fundraising! Those kinds of dollars are found when participants get out of their comfort zones and take on challenges they didn't think possible (just like the students). Not only are the students so grateful for the support, but the gala participants are so appreciative of the chance to really step up and make a difference by stretching their own abilities. Kevin encourages all of us to step up, step out, and take a risk to help a student understand that success in school is the same as success in life; it takes a dedicated village. kinddependent.com

We're excited to see our students as well as Kevin Barth, CEO of Commerce Bank and our 2026 Dancing with the Kansas City Stars champion, featured in The Independent Magazine! Be sure to check out the September issue of The Independent to see plenty of CRKC (as well as lots of CRKC purple and gold)!

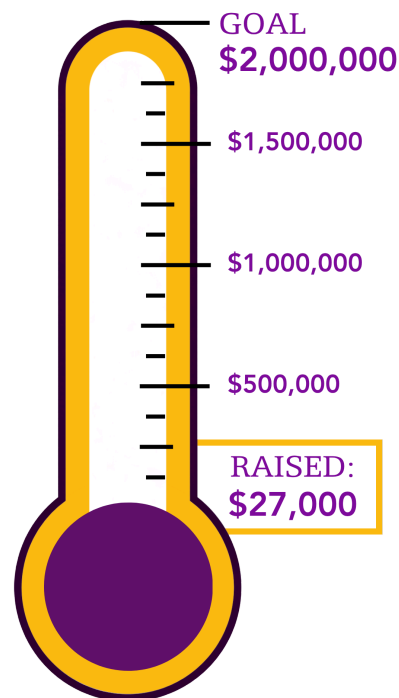
Sideline the Stigma: KC Current & Blue Cross Blue Shield Support Female Athletes



For the second year, a group of our CRKC female student-athletes proudly represented us at Sideline the Stigma at CPKC Stadium, hosted by the KC Current and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City. Our students heard from an incredible panel featuring Betty Lennox, Alana Cook, Tiffani McReynolds and Haley Hopkins, who shared their experiences and perspectives as women in sports.

Students also participated in several breakout sessions, including a powerful session led by Meredith Rose on identity beyond athletics. We're grateful for opportunities like this that empower our young women and support their growth both on and off the field!

Endowment Announcement



After 20 years of student and community impact, donors can now contribute to Cristo Rey KC's endowment! Click the Donate to Endowment button to fill out the endowment agreement form and help us build upon our strong foundation.

[Donate to Endowment](#)

Upcoming Events:

- Oct 2: Girls Volleyball Senior Night
- Oct 5: FAFSA Night
- Oct 8: Boys Soccer Senior Night
- Oct 9: Professional Development, No School
- Oct 10: Homecoming
- Oct 12: Indigenous People's Day, No School
- Oct 13: FAFSA Night
- Oct 14: Meet & Greet
- Oct 17: Open House
- Oct 21: FAFSA Night
- Oct 23: Coffee at Cristo Rey
- Oct 29: Community Engagement Night, SEL
- Oct 29: FAFSA Night
- Oct 30: All-School Mass
- Oct 31: Halloween

Attend Meet & Greet:

Come learn more about Cristo Rey KC by enjoying a free lunch and taking a tour hosted by students! Click the following link to register. All Meet & Greets are from 12pm-1pm at the Cristo Rey KC campus: 211 Linwood Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64111.

[RSVP for Meet & Greet](#)

Other Ways to Engage:

1. Mentorship and Tutoring: We are seeking mentors and tutors for our students. **Click here** for more information.
2. Learn more about Cristo Rey Kansas City at **www.cristoreykc.org**



DONATE

www.cristoreykc.org

Cristo Rey Kansas City | 211 West Linwood Blvd. | Kansas City, MO 64111 US

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