DT: December 27, 2013

TO: Current RCS Families

RE: Preferred Re-enrollment Begins Immediately! Re-enrollment by January 24th will include two tickets for the partial scholarship drawing at Redwood Appreciation Dinner (RAD). Re-enrollment on January 25th or later includes one ticket.

*Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.* Isaiah 26:4 (ESV)

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

*Greetings*

It is hard to believe that we will soon be enrolling students for our forty-fifth year of ministry in 2014-15. God has blessed RCS richly with tremendous students, committed parents and a dedicated board, faculty and staff each of our first forty-four years. Our student outcomes continue to be encouraging as the family, church and school continue our commitment to work together to invest in and to train the next generation of Christian leaders in ministry, business, military, police and fire, and, most important, the next generation of Moms and Dads.

We are so thankful for your partnership with Redwood Christian Schools and for your commitment to provide your child(ren) with a Christ-centered education, and for allowing Redwood Christian Schools to partner with you and your church in this crucial task.

The Board and Staff of RCS recognize your commitment. There is no better way to invest for children than to provide a quality, Christ-centered education for them. We are committed to working with you.

*After prayerfully considering several funding alternatives, the Redwood Christian Schools Board has prayerfully decided once again that RCS will continue its forty-four-year tradition of charging a pay-
for-all-education tuition; we charge extra fees only so that all parents do not have to pay for services used by only a few parents. In other words, RCS still does not have the wide variety of additional fees as some schools do, such as most textbook fees, technology fees, facility fees, and activity fees. We do our best to make our tuition inclusive, and hope to continue with this philosophy for many years to come.

Please read through the enclosed information, including the Tuition and Fees for the 2014-15 school year and 2014-15 Re-enrollment Questions and Answers. All tuition and fees are reviewed yearly. We know you agree that it is important that RCS remain financially strong as a ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.

HOW TO RE-ENROLL
To re-enroll, simply log in to ParentsWeb, then look on the left side of the screen, under "Family Information" and click on Re-Enrollment. Please be sure to complete the entire re-enrollment process, including going to the FACTS page, completing your information and selecting your payment plan for 2014-15.

REDWOOD APPRECIATION DINNER (RAD)
I want to encourage you to re-enroll prior to attending the Redwood Appreciation Dinner (RAD) and School Update, so that you can take advantage of the partial tuition scholarships being awarded at RAD. Scholarships of $4,000, $3,000, $2,000 and $1,000 will be awarded, but you have to be re-enrolled and present to win. Families that delay re-enrolling place their children's seats in their classroom at risk, so please do not delay re-enrolling!

TUITION INCREASE FOR 2014-15
The RCS Board prayerfully approved a budget for the 2014-15 school year that includes one of the lowest tuition increases since 2004-05. By the school continually seeking cost-saving alternatives, the tuition increase was able to be set at 3.9% for the 2014-15 school year (does not apply to the International Student Program where tuition is set separately). Since 2004-05, tuition has increased an average of 4.7% per year. This tuition increase will also allow a 2% increase in the base salary for teachers, raising teacher base salaries to $34,970 or $37,235 depending upon the salary schedule.

Maintaining a low tuition percentage increase is possible due to continuing a number of adjustments we made for this year including how tuition will continue to be paid and the savings that the school will continue to incur. These adjustments plus anticipated increased enrollment are saving the average parent $200 per year.

It is not unusual for me to be asked why a tuition increase is necessary. There are certain expenses that increase yearly regardless of the economy or enrollment, such as facility use fees, utilities, insurance, and medical costs. Teachers also receive a step in years-of-service increase. The starting salary for a credentialed teacher starting at RCS will be $37,235; the tenth-year salary - $43,937; the twentieth-year salary - $49,709; the thirtieth-year salary - $53,618; and the fortieth-year salary - $55,666.

HELP WITH NEW-_STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND YOUR FAMILY'S TUITION
Our board and administration team continue to look for ways to help our families offset part of their tuition expense.
One way to help pay for tuition is to host one of our International Students. Host Families are paid approximately $1,200 per month for opening their homes to these middle school and high school students. As RCS is not a boarding school, we are not equipped to be guardians/hosts to these young people.

However, we can recommend good families who have a heart for Jesus and a desire to show these students a Christian home and their walk with Him. If RCS does not coordinate the home stay for the international student, the amount each student pays monthly for room and board is made by agreement between the host family and the student’s family or representative. Regardless, it is truly a win-win for both the family (helping with the cost of tuition) and the International Student (being able to attend RCS and live with an American family). Our International Students require a room of their own. They are serious students who have a positive impact on the host family. We do our best to match families with the same age and gender students with our International Students. Please contact Ben Warner, Director of RCS Global, at BenWarner@rcs.edu or 510-317-8990 for more information.

25% RE-ENROLLMENT TUITION CREDIT
A family that re-enrolls by January 24 and whose tuition account is current on April 10, 2014, will receive a 25% re-enrollment credit toward the May 2015 tuition payment (or March 2015 for 10-month payers who are current on February 10). Families paying their 2014-15 tuition in full by June 10 will receive the 25% re-enrollment credit at that time. Re-enrolling on time and keeping your account current enables RCS to be the best possible stewards. A family re-enrolling may do so in up to four payments. Families who meet all payment deadlines will qualify for the 25% re-enrollment tuition credit.

MONTHLY TUITION-PAYMENT OPTIONS
Families will have four options for paying their 2014-15 tuition:

1. Pay in full by June 10 and receive a 2% discount (plus the 25% re-enrollment credit if re-
   enrolled by January 24, 2014);
2. Pay 12 monthly payments (June 2014 through May 2015);
3. Pay 10 monthly payments (June 2014 through March 2015);

Please also remember that your non-refundable June payment confirms your commitment to attend RCS for the 2014-15 school year, but your monthly payments must be made during the summer. Be sure to make provision for paying your tuition prior to leaving on vacation. Thank you in advance!

TUITION GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY. Families are encouraged to research and apply for tuition grants from both RCS and outside sources. Some families are hesitant to apply for tuition grants. We encourage parents to consider applying for tuition assistance at Redwood as they would do so for their child(ren) to attend college or university. Please know that there are organizations outside of RCS who exist to assist families to provide a private education for their children.

RCS will be using the tuition grant application from our current tuition management company beginning 2014-15. This will mean no changes for you and a savings of $8 for the application process. You will find information on www.rcs.edu and click on the Information tab. Tuition Grant information is the first
listed. Applications are available starting January 6, 2014 for 2014-15. Parents who apply by April 1 will be notified by April 30.

Each outside source of tuition assistance has its own eligibility standards. Families may receive funding from only one of the sources listed below but application should be made to each (where eligible). Generally, the scholarships granted by the organizations below are for $1,500-$2,000 per year for four years per eligible child. Applying to all eligible funding sources is required to receive the maximum tuition grant from RCS.

- The Basic Fund (www.basicfund.org) for new students in grades K-8 and students currently receiving funding through The Basic Fund;
- The Guardsmen Scholarship Program (www.guardsmen.org) for students currently receiving funding from their program in grades K-6.

Tuition grants from RCS include any funding from the above organizations. The first group of applicants will be notified by April 30. Failure to apply for outside funding will reduce your tuition assistance award. The earlier you re-enroll and apply by the appropriate deadlines, the more consideration will be given to your application.

Visit these websites now and call for applications after January 1. Be sure to meet all deadlines. Remember, outside funding is on a first-come first-serve basis for as long as funding is available. Therefore, it is very beneficial to apply as early as possible. Visit each source's website for specific deadlines.

All Tuition Grant recipients will be required to use ACH (Automatic Clearing House) for tuition payments.

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Please remember that your tuition account for 2013-14 must be current in order for next year’s re-enrollment to be completed. Spaces are not held until all of the re-enrollment requirements are met. Please see the enclosed Tuition and Fees brochure and Tuition Policies and Procedures.

If you determine that next year's tuition is unaffordable and you plan to not re-enroll your child(ren) due to finances, please contact me personally by e-mail (BruceJohnson@rcs.edu) or phone (510-889-7526). All calls are confidential, of course!

Mr. Hubbard and I are also available to answer any other questions regarding tuition or our tuition payment policies. Please do not wait to take the first step; re-enroll for the 2014-15 school year by January 24.

We are looking forward to another outstanding year in 2014-15, our 45th Year of Ministry. We do hope that your family continues to be part of the RCS community. Please do not delay in completing your re-enrollment application.
With New-Parent Information Meetings beginning in January, it is a great time to invite and attend these meetings with prospective families. It is important to remember that more students result in greater program offerings and directly affects the amount the tuition increases the following year.

We recognize that entrusting your precious child(ren) to our care is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. All members of the board currently are parents of either RCS current students or graduates. We fully understand the choices you have to make in order to provide a truly Christ-centered, Biblical education for our children. We praise God for your commitment!

_Blessings!_