



Monthly Update

# OCTOBER 2025



## Dear Friends,

October is upon us, and maybe that makes you think of the colors of fall and the smell of pumpkin spice latte. Here, around the Navajo Nation, when the morning air turns crisp, people's thoughts move toward how they are going to heat their homes for the winter. How severe will the cold be this year? Do we have enough wood stored up? And, if not, when will we gather enough?

For the elders in our community who might not have family close by, these can quickly become questions of health and survival. To address those needs and concerns, RCS Chaplain, Kevin Ruthven, started a service project with our students several years ago. They receive donations from the arborists in Albuquerque after they cut down trees. The large logs arrive at campus on huge flatbed trucks, and then our students saw them up into smaller logs before chopping them into usable firewood.

For many students, this is a chance to use their hands and pitch in for the larger community the way they do at home. Once all the wood has been chopped up, Kevin and the students take it out to the homes of people who wouldn't be able to gather wood on their own. For students like Dario, this activity provides a sense of purpose and direction—even a nudge toward studies or a career that is about helping others.

Thanks once more for your partnership,

**Dan Meester, Executive Director**



## How can you pray for our school and community?

- We are wrapping up the first quarter of the school year on October 10. Parent-Teacher conferences follow right after that and serve as a key way to deepen the relationships between staff and families. Please pray for rich, fruitful conversations that point us all toward love for our students and children.
- Several members of our staff have lost family members recently. Even as adults, it hurts deeply to lose people we've always counted on. Pray that these staff members can experience the peace of God that passes all understanding and that our community can wrap its arms of care around them as well.
- Our school will embark on a new strategic planning process this fall. Pray for wisdom and insight about the ways Rehoboth can continue its powerful mission and build toward a sustainable future.

## School and Student Highlights

- Rehoboth 5th grader, Nanu Thompson, won a role as a voice actor in the animated short film, *Stadium Walk*, directed by RCS alum, Anthony Chee Emerson. She voiced her character in both English and Navajo. The film has been featured in multiple festivals around the country.
- It was a busy summer for Rehoboth senior, Faith Vicente. She was selected as the starting center fielder representing New Mexico on USA Softball's U19 team that toured Italy. Then Faith spent a week at the Dolphin Research Center in Marathon, FL to explore her interest in Marine Biology.
- Rehoboth Librarian and PE teacher, Duane Yazzie, was featured in an article in the *Sahan Journal*, commending his efforts to educate our elementary students about climate and creation care by curating books about the still-present effects of uranium mining on the people's health and the water supply on the Navajo Nation.

## CURRENT NEEDS

### • TUITION ASSISTANCE

As we look to the end of the first quarter of the school year, we are grateful for the gifts in support of our tuition assistance program totalling \$512,227 through September 23. Due to increases in our medical benefits and the loss of funding from the alternative fuel credit for our buses, we recently adjusted our annual need to **\$2 million**. With your continued support, we can meet this increased need for this school year.

### • SALT PROGRAM (Students All Learning Together)

This year, the financial need for our SALT Program is **\$380,993**. Families across our community turn to Rehoboth because of the incredible care and expertise of our SALT staff—helping students thrive when they need extra support. With your continued generosity, we can ensure every child receives the attention they deserve throughout the 2025–26 school year.

### • KUIPERS GYM RENOVATION PROJECT

We are excited to share that the Kuipers Gym Project has been **fully funded!** We are working through the finalized design and permit process, and hope to break ground in the coming months. A huge thank you to the generous supporters who are making this project a reality!

### • REHOBOTH SOLAR-PHASE #2

We are excited to begin the next phase of solar energy production at Rehoboth! We are working with our solar provider on the job scope and budget. We look forward to sharing this information with you very soon! Our hope is to install a solar array on the High School and Sports & Fitness Center—a **\$500,000** investment that will lower energy costs, free up resources for student programs, and demonstrate faithful stewardship of creation. If you'd like to learn more about the project or explore ways you can partner with us, please reach out to Ken Zylstra, Director of Advancement.

### • STAFF AMAZON WISHLIST

Your support is greatly valued and helps equip our staff for success. Please consider purchasing items off the Staff Amazon Wishlist. Scan QR Code to access the wishlist on your phone



Thank you for your continued support and prayers!  
If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us:

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