

June 2, 2025

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on another graduation season, we are thankful for the 43 seniors who completed their Christian education here at Rehoboth. This week, we celebrated with our staff—recognizing many years of their service, including one teacher who has been at Rehoboth for 45 years! God continues to bring to us the teachers, counselors, assistants, and volunteers who faithfully provide for the educational, emotional, and spiritual needs of the 462 students we serve from PreK - 12th grade here at Rehoboth Christian School.

Every school year comes with joys and difficulties, and this year we faced some financial challenges. Tuition revenue, rental income, interest income, and grant income are all projected to finish lower than budgeted for the year. On the flip side, our staffing and benefit expenses were higher than anticipated as we worked through the school year. This all leads to an expected shortfall of \$158,000 for our June 30 year end. We ask for your help to reduce this shortfall with an additional gift in the coming weeks.

In past decades, Rehoboth used a line of credit in the fall to pay our teachers and staff when money was tight. After the holiday giving season, we would pay off the line of credit each year. Since 2015, we have built up a funding reserve to help us through those fall months, so we no longer need the line of credit. If a shortfall remains at the end of this year, however, we may need to renew the line of credit and, if borrowing is necessary, pay interest on those funds—an expense we would hope to avoid.

Another challenging budget area is employee benefits. Health insurance costs continue to increase significantly, especially with multiple staff members needing extensive medical care this year. Yet, we are committed to providing quality insurance and retirement benefits for our teachers and staff. During the winter and spring months, our administrative team worked to prepare a budget for the upcoming school year, making many difficult decisions to reduce our expenses—including eliminating several staffing positions to right-size our personnel and balance the budget for 2025-26.

Thank you for faithfully walking alongside our students, staff, and families. Please continue to pray for our administrative team as we work through these challenges. Pray also for our new admissions coordinator, Kristin Rousseau. We hope that she will be able to encourage new families and students to join our community, filling the available spots in some of our classrooms so that more students can come to know of the saving grace that comes from a relationship with our Lord and Savior. If you would like to discuss any of these topics further, I encourage you to to reach out.

Grateful for your partnership in this ministry,

Ken Zylstra

Director of Advancement

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