



THE PHOENIX ANNUAL

Issue 9

The Raleigh Charter High School Annual Newsletter

December 2018



Celebrating Twenty Years Together

**RALEIGH CHARTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

1999 - 2019

Welcome Back

Introduction by Jameson Marks, RCHS Board Chair, Class of 2003

I had a frightening thought as I sat down to pen these opening remarks: the most recent graduating classes at Raleigh Charter were not even born when I was a student there. I imagine many of my fellow classmates and other alumni families feel a disconnect from their time at Raleigh Charter compared to the school today. A lot changes over twenty years. RCHS, once housed at the historic Pilot Mill, now calls the old Methodist Building on Glenwood Avenue its forever home. The school, guided by Tom Humble for many years, now lies in the capable hands of Lisa Huddleston. Despite all that has changed across two decades, it fills me with pride to share with you how true the Raleigh Charter of today is to the fledgling school so many of us hold dear to our hearts.

Over the last fifteen years, I have followed Raleigh Charter's development through word of mouth and news articles detailing the school's growth and success. I was always proud of my connection to RCHS, but didn't directly reconnect until about five years ago when I began returning annually to judge the We the People competition. Walking down the halls of the new school building, I found myself pleasantly surprised that

the different location still managed to feel just like the original school I attended. I was even more impressed as I started evaluating students' classroom performances. These were definitely Raleigh Charter students.

In 2016, I became more involved at RCHS as I joined the school's Board of Directors. This past summer, I took on a new role as Chair of the Board. Through these experiences, I have gained an ever greater appreciation for how our RCHS community has maintained its strength and how our values have guided the school since its inception.

Raleigh Charter has always only been possible because of the work of innovative teachers, passionate students, involved parents, and dedicated staff and volunteers. This remains true today just as it did on the first day of school in 1999. A number of the amazing teachers from the first years of the school are still teaching here and over the years they have been joined by many other engaging teachers and staff, including two alumni! Raleigh Charter continues to produce good citizen students who excel in their studies, serve their community,

and exhibit leadership and dedication with the now over 70 clubs and student-run organizations. Although PASTA changed its name to Phoenix Parents, support from our caring, committed parents remains steadfast.

Each member of our community is responsible for ensuring that Raleigh Charter continues forward and the school we all know continues for many more generations. To that end, I ask that all Forever Phoenix alumni and families remain engaged in the Raleigh Charter community and support the school however you can. Please consider volunteering your time, contributing annually to the Phoenix Fund, or ensuring the school's future by pledging to the Foundation Fund.



Jameson Marks, '03, with his wife, Hilary, and their two sons, Elijah (L) and Benjamin (R).

Celebrating Twenty Years Together!



In honor of our 20th Anniversary, we are highlighting the many wonderful ways we come together to build our community. From continuing traditions to exploring innovations, everything we do contributes to the growth and success of our active, social, creative learning environment. **This year we are celebrating twenty years learning, serving, thinking, laughing, playing, creating, exploring, and growing together.**

Creating



From stitching quilts on Community Work Day to baking cakes for the Annual Cake Bake, our students are always finding ways to create amazing projects together.



Playing

From performing on center stage to strategizing on center court, Raleigh Charter students are serious about making time to play both inside the classroom and out on the field.



Growing



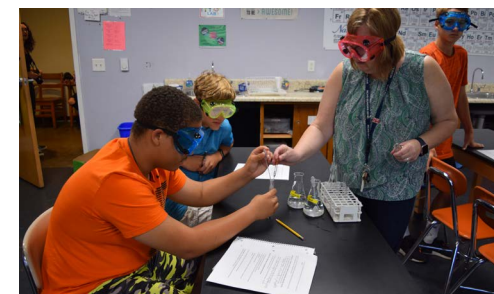
Serving

Since the very early days of RCHS, citizenship and community service have been the focal points of our mission. Our students, alumni, and faculty share their time and talents to give back to the school, our city, and our global community.



With over 2,000 graduates living and working across the globe, Raleigh Charter alumni are truly citizens of the world. Although we have grown in numbers, we still make sure to maintain small class sizes.

Thinking



Learning



Exploring

Whether we're exploring different cultures on Flex Days or investigating works of art at the North Carolina Museum of Art, our days are filled with curiosity and exploration.



Learning is at the center of everything we do. From class discussions to student-organized debates and from Flex Day activities to group projects, we are constantly learning together.

Laughing

Laughter is a common sound that flows through our classrooms and hallways every day. From fun times on Physics Flex Day, to Twin Tuesday during Spirit Week, to the creative costumes on Halloween, we certainly spend a lot of time laughing together!

Alumni Citizens of the World

Two alumni from the class of 2008 share how their RCHS experiences inspired their work and passions both in the classroom and beyond.

Forever Phoenix



FOREVER
RCHS ALUMNI
PHOENIX

THINKING & CREATING

My path toward Software Engineering was not exactly linear. I have always enjoyed and excelled in math, and I found the encouragement of Ms. Huddleston and Ms. Solano paramount to my education at RCHS. I had every intention of continuing to study math at UNC. But when I found it jarring to leave the comfort of the RCHS classroom and suddenly become one of only two or perhaps the only woman in my math classes, I decided to study Psychology instead.

After a few years of boredom and the resurfacing of a hunger to get back to solving complex problems, I began to teach myself to code while I was working for a non-profit in DC. Growing more confident that I wanted to pursue a career in coding, I took a job in San Francisco working for a tech startup where I was able to learn even more. I'm now a Software Engineer at Heroku, still one of very few women on my team.

As I witness Google employees walking out in San Francisco and all over the world in protest of the mismanagement of sexual harassment issues and make

demands for equal representation at all levels, I think about the many roadblocks that women and other underrepresented groups face when pursuing careers in STEM. I think about what it felt like to join as the company's second woman in my first two tech roles. I also think back to how happy I was studying AP Physics at Raleigh Charter and my lab partner telling me that he hoped that I would pursue engineering. I feel lucky to have had the encouragement that I did, and I feel a deep sense of obligation to pass along that encouragement and to break down the barriers that are keeping many great engineers out of the field.



Katie Lundsgaard, Class of 2008
Software Engineer at Heroku in San Francisco, CA

SERVING & EXPLORING

In middle school, high school, and college, I met people who had served as Peace Corps Volunteers — including RCHS teachers whom I respected and admired — so two years after graduating college, I decided to apply to the Peace Corps.

I served as a Community Health Resource Volunteer in a small village in Northern Belize. During my service, I implemented programs with the Rural Family Health Project to promote maternal and neonatal health and prevent non-communicable diseases. I made home visits with a community health worker, tended to a community garden, and taught fitness classes. I also enjoyed planning and facilitating an annual leadership camp for girls.

Through my Peace Corps experience, I learned the intricacies of sustainable development and how difficult public health programming can be. I was also able to improve my Spanish-speaking skills, learn about project



management, and practice resourcefulness and patience.

At Raleigh Charter, I started to truly consider what it means to be an involved citizen—of a local community, of a country, of the world. While there are countless ways to contribute, volunteering is one of the most important to me. Through RCHS programs and courses, I learned creative problem-solving and the value of having a unique voice. These lessons helped me throughout my journey as a Peace Corps Volunteer, and they continue to resonate with me today.

Jessica Corley, Class of 2008
Communications Writer at the National Institutes of Health in Washington, DC



Reflect

With over 2,000 graduates living and working across the globe, Raleigh Charter alumni are truly citizens of the world. We hope that over the course of our twentieth year we can *reconnect with all of you* to celebrate the community we have built as we look forward to the next decade together!

Reconnect

We invite all RCHS alumni and alumni parents to reconnect with Raleigh Charter by completing a short online form to update your contact information and share your memories with us.

We will use your updated information to

- Invite you to our 20th Anniversary Weekend!
- Send you the Alumni Community News.
- Connect your skills & talents with volunteer opportunities at school.
- Keep you updated on all things RCHS!

Use these links or visit raleighcharterhs.org/alumni to update your record today. Email us anytime at alumni@raleighcharterhs.org.

Alumni

<https://tinyurl.com/ForeverPhoenix20>

Alumni Parents

<https://tinyurl.com/ForeverPhoenix20-Parents>

Make sure to join our [Raleigh Charter High School Alumni](#) Facebook group!

Return

Join us for our upcoming alumni events! Alumni are welcome to return to RCHS to visit with teachers and staff. We also invite you to join us for these special alumni activities and the events listed on the back on the newsletter.

Annual Alumni & Faculty Winter Coffee

Monday, January 7 | 1:30 - 3:00 at RCHS

Join us during your Winter Break (or your lunch break!) for coffee, cocoa, and treats.

Catch up with classmates and visit with your favorite teachers.

Raleigh Charter High School ANNIVERSARY & REUNION CELEBRATION WEEKEND

For Alumni & Alumni Parents



JUNE 15, 2019

See page 12 for more information!
Registration opens in March 2019.

Thank you!

Celebrating 20 Years of Community

During the 2017-2018 school year, our community of alumni, alumni parents, current parents, students, grandparents, friends, corporations, and foundations came together to raise **\$347,505**, exceeding our \$325,000 Phoenix Fund goal by **\$22,505**.



Our PHOENIX FUND is operational.

It pays for today by supplementing low per-pupil funds.

With the extra \$22,505 raised, we were able to support our newest initiative – The Foundation Fund.

Our FOUNDATION FUND is aspirational.

The Foundation Fund exists to support teachers and classrooms.

For the 2017-2018 school year, our community contributed **\$77,332**.

Learn more about The Phoenix Fund and The Foundation Fund on page 11.



From our students and faculty, **thank you to the following contributors for gifts received from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.** Your support keeps our classes small, provides updated textbooks and other classroom resources, and ensures that we are able to attract, retain, and support our faculty.

Phoenix Fund

Forever Phoenix

Anonymous (1)
 Aaron Alejandro '12
 Sara Awan '18
 Shamar Brodie '18
 Sari-Rose Brown '13
 Enoch Cheung '18
 Brandon Cooke '09
 Hailey Cox '18
 Drew DiSerafino '18
 Cole Estrada '18
 Hannah Fatool '18
 Jasmine Hayden-Lowe '18
 Akhil Jariwala '10
 Martha Johnson '07
 Laith Khasawneh '18
 Ben Kipps '18
 Calvin Koonce '18
 James Kotecki '04
 Caroline Le '18
 Jenna Levy '18
 Jameson Marks '03
 Raj Mehta '18
 Beyla Mittal '18
 Nada Mittal '18
 Mariama Morray '18
 Davis Muma '11
 in honor of Dr. Steve Busonik
 Madeleine Murray '18
 Anna Nelson '18

Kansas Nelson '18
 Langdon Ogburn '17
 Bubune Owusu '18
 Emma Peck '18
 Karl Peek '18
 Naishadha Peri '18
 Jake Raimundo '18
 Neill Robson '15
 Gautam Sanka '10
 Luke Satisky '19
 and his Eagle Scout supporters
 Alex Smith '06
 Sallie Thompson '11
 Ellie White '16
 Caroline Williams '11
 Eloise Williams '18
 Anna Wolff '18
 Allen Yuan '18

Current Parents

Anonymous (10)
 Scott and Kim Abbott
 Kyoko Abe
 Richard and Ginger Adams
 The Nagaranthal Family
 Chris Ahn
 Christie Albert
 Daija, Dahlan, and
 the Anderson Family
 Terri Aron
 Debra and Ron Aronson
 in appreciation of RCHS
 The Ayala Family

The Ayerbe Family
 Peter Balint-Kurti
 The Battula Family
 Addison Bell
 in honor of Mr. Rios, Dr. Brown,
 Ms. Valasquez, Mr. Caudill,
 Mr. Hussey, Mr. Montague, and
 Ms. Huddleston

The Benjamin Family
 Beresford Cornerstone
 Charitable Fund of Triangle
 Community Foundation

Howard Berinson
 Gregory Bertles
 Serpil Bizova
 Wiley and Diane Blackburn
 The Blackman Family
 Siva and Madhavi Bodavula
 The Boettcher Family
 Ben and Clare Bonifant
 Lori Bourne
 Kathleen Boyce
 The Rosier-Bradley Family
 Matthias Breidsprecher
 Maureen Bross
 Christopher Buchanan
 John Casey and Stacey Barnett
 Amy Caulfield
 Apurva and Archana Chaudhari
 The Cheung Family
 Amy Clauss
 Laura Clougherty
 Robert Coles

Joan Coley
 Susan Conger
 Mark Congiusta
 The Corley Family
 Bidhu Das
 Heather Daughtridge
 Tracy Davis
 Rebekah Davis
 The DeStasio Family
 Lorna DeWalle
 Dave and Ann Marie DiSerafino
 Daniel Dittman
 Wendy Dittman
 David and Susan Dubach
 Allison Dugan
 The Dunham Family
 Rudra Dutta
 The Edmondson Family
 Warren Edwards
 Paul and Jennifer Elam
 Jessica Elder McDonald
 The Esleek Family
 The Fisher Family
 The Foland Family
 Katherine and Louis Fortunato
 The Furr Family
 The Gaines Family
 The Gan Family
 The Gantt Family
 The Garcia Family
 The Gerber Family
 Barbara and Pryor Gibson
 Young Gil



Jane Gilewicz
 Jenn Glatthaar
 Jamie Gordon
 Karen Gower
 The Green Family
 Paul and Christy Greene
 Jim and Lynne Greig
 Unmie Gutierrez
 Chris Hale
 The Hannon Family
 Kristy Hansen
 Mark Hardy
 Mansur Hattab
 Matthew and Jessica Healey
 The Hester Family
 Brent and Felicia Heyward
 Mr. and Ms. Darin Jay Hill
 The Houck Family
 Pete Huckins
 Juliane Huguey
 Thomas Hurley
 Debra Hurst
 Ramana Indugula
 Thomas Ireton
 Grady Jackson
 The Jackson Family
 Priyanka and Vinay Jain
 Kristen and David James
 David and Laura Jeffries
 in honor of the Class of 2021

Shiau-Ling Jian
 Andrea Johnson
 Vijay and Reena Juneja
 Seema and Gajendra Kabra
 Connie Kang and Lianghong Liu
 Chetan Kanjia
 Prasad Kashyap
 Richard Kaznicki
 in recognition of
 Robert Willet's generosity
 Adrienne Berney
 and Richard Kaznicki
 Matt Keele
 Constance Keen
 Arnold and Jane King
 Mike and Heidi King
 Jak and Page King
 Edward and Jacque Kipps
 Joe Kochuba
 The Koenig Family
 Carolyn Koning
 Battle Koonce
 The Kristianson Family
 Neelima Reddy Kunta



Al and Julie Lambert
 Haden and Beth Lane
 Patrick Lawrence
 The Le Family
 The Leibert Family
 Eric Leser
 Lynne Lewis
 Tong Li and Jie Tao
 The Liang Family
 The Lindyberg Family
 The Lipetzky Family
 Sandi Long
 Charles Lotz
 Robert Lutz and Kimberly Williams
 The Macomber Family
 Vinay Manhass and Shalini Kheora
 Bruce Marshall
 Carrie Marshall
 Scott and Nina Mason
 Michael and Amanda McCabe
 Darin McClure
 The McNeas Family
 The McSorley Family
 Lisa Meeks
 Florence Melin
 The Meyerhoffer Family
 The Miller Family
 The Mittal Family
 The Moomaw Family
 The Morray Family
 Patrick and Michelle Murray
 Emily Murray
 David Nelson
 Deb and Rudy Ogburn
 Emmanuel and Vivien Omile
 Patrick O'Neill
 Clayton Padgett
 Sonia Pal
 Vijay Pal
 Venkata Narayana Panchikarla
 Diana and Eric Parsons
 Vipul and Sue Patel
 Shawn Patterson-Brodie
 Edward Peart
 Andre and Donna Peek
 Elizabeth Peeler,
 DP Planning, Meeting & Events
 Shari Pender
 Kathleen Perez
 Kailash Peri
 Kathy Perkinson
 The Perrin Family
 Jonathan and Eva Phillips
 The Poole Family
 The Powell Family
 Randolph Pritchard
 Brian and Nicole Raimundo
 Balaji Ramadurai
 Varadarajan Ramamoorthy
 Neil and Susan Ramquist
 Glenn Raynor
 The Regensburger Family
 Jane Roberts
 Adolfo Rodriguez
 Rob and Robin Rowan
 The Ruddarraju Family
 Rodolfo Ruiz
 Satinder Saini
 Dawn Santoianni
 Michael Santoianni
 Sumali Sanyal
 Keith and Graham Satsky
 The Sawatzky Family

Jeffrey and Donna Schuster
 Jodi Schwartz
 Anne Scott
 Joseph and Gina Scudato
 Jennifer Serino
 Ankur Shah
 Sanjay Shah
 Cameron and Wendy Shearon
 Allison Sicary-Sutich
 The Slater Family
 The Slayton Family
 Vincent Smith and
 Carrie Dow-Smith
 Jennifer Snyder
 The Sockin Family
 The Sommers Family
 The Southworth Family
 David and Sharon Spitz
 The Springle Family
 Mona Sridhar
 Nambi and Subha Sridharan
 The Starbuck Family
 Dirk and Anne Steckmann
 Robin and John Stewart
 The Stradling Family
 Angela Strickland
 Ryan Swenson
 Christian and Alice Tate
 Jolyne Taylor
 The Therien Family
 Corinne and Martin Thiele
 Preethi Thomas
 Susan and Terrell Thomas
 Vinod Tiwari
 The Tomei Family
 Hsin-Hsong Tseng
 Semyon Tsynkov
 Naveen Vangipurapu
 The Vick Family
 The Wacaser Family
 The Wallace Family
 The Walsh Family
 Shuangquan Wang
 Heather and David Watkins
 The Wedge Family
 Alison and Seth Weinreb
 The Wells Family
 Beth and Scott White
 Lynn Whittenberger
 The Willett Family
 Wayne and Clastrola Williams
 Jon and Rose Williams
 Michelle and Andy Willis
 Rob and Kelly Wilson
 Kimberly Wnorowski
 The Wolff Family
 Steve Woodburn
 The Worlikar Family
 Hong Xu
 The Young Family
 Dan Zachary

Current Faculty & Staff

Zach and Sera Arcaro
 Glenda Atkinson
 Kern Hairston
 Lisa Huddleston
 Thomas and Sally Humble
 Adriana Velasquez
 Peggy and George Wall



Former Faculty & Staff

Anthony Clay
 Marylee Deifer

Contributing Friends

Anonymous (3)
 Donato and Mary Altobelli
 in memory of
 Angela Callanan Joseph
 The Conder Family
 Chuck and Susan Nichols
 Christine Noonan
 in memory of
 Angela Rae Callanan Joseph
 Professors Judith W. Page and
 William H. Page
 in honor of Hannah Page
 Dhinesh Sadhwani
 Janice Williams
 Roy Williams

Grandparents

Anonymous (1)
 Patricia Andersen
 in honor of Sarah Edmondson
 Jane Cleveland
 in honor of Sam Elam
 Louis and Suzanne Dawes
 in honor of our granddaughter,
 Anna Fortunato
 Bonnie Elam
 Richard and Barbara Farnar
 with thanks to your great school
 and in honor our our grandsons,
 Zach and Thomas Steckmann
 Meredith and Tom Foreshaw
 Charlotte Grant
 Mr. and Ms. HJ Hill
 Marie Kehres
 Chip and Ellen Limbrick
 in honor of Wheeler Thompson
 Mary S. Pellettieri
 Susan Poux
 Christopher and Martha Power
 Joan Sanstadt
 Howard and Lyn Satisky
 Family Fund of Triangle
 Community Foundation
 Peter S. Slocum



Forever Phoenix Parents

Anonymous (2)
 The Rev. Gary and Ms. Lou Ann Allred
 Tracy Appling
 Winston Atkins and Kathy Green
 Winnie and Michael Beach
 Andrea Behrns-Miller
 Noelle, Howard, and Press Browne
 in honor of Mike Scrudato '17
 Anthony Caristo
 Debra and Clayton DeCamillis
 Craig and Vicki Erickson
 Cindi and Joel Freeman
 John Fuscoe
 Pete and Karen Gamble
 Kristen and Jon Glass
 Kathy Green
 Kim and W. E. Griffin
 The Harrings Family
 Susetta and Jason Harvey
 Rachel Hearn
 Laura Heintschel and John Leonard
 The Heyes-Waters Family
 Alexandra Hightower
 Liz and Marty Hubbe
 Stephen Humphries
 The Ingram Family
 Lisa Ives
 Anthony Ivosic
 Steve and Carolyn Jackson
 Bo Kasal and Dana Kasalova
 Irene Kesselman
 Jodi Stewart Khater
 The Kilgore Family
 The LaFlam Family
 Susan Smith Lamb
 Jeanne and Bradley Lawson
 Calvin Leggett
 The Lochbaum Family
 Robert Lutz and Kimberly Williams
 Audrey Mark
 John and Judith Marks
 Amy and David Marschall
 Scotland May
 Sharon and Alan McConnell
 John and Stephanie Mitchell
 Carol Anne and Dick Moehring
 The Montgomery Family
 The Munger Family
 Hilarie Nickerson
 Bob and Tammy Noel
 Diane O'Shea
 Michael Poe
 Tony Quartararo and Elena Ceberio

Patricia Reid
 Robert Siegel and Raffaella Di Giorgio
 The Simone Family
 Anders and Kathleen Skaar
 Carol and Mark Steckbeck
 Mark Stephens
 Alison Stephenson
 Ted Storck and Sarah Liehr
 Michael and Veronique Sweeney
 The Thompson Family
 The Van Dorsten Family
 Cheryl Vetter
 The Vetterl Family
 James Ward
 The Wells Family

Foundations & Organizations

Class of 2018
 Combined Federal Campaign
 Phoenix Parents
 Phoenixwear Sales
 PayPal Giving Fund
 State Employees Combined Campaign
 The John William Pope Foundation
 United Way of the Greater Triangle

Corporations

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina
 Cisco Foundation
 Citrix Systems, Inc.
 Clarkston-Potomac Group, Inc.
 Dell Matching Gifts
 Duke Energy Foundation
 First Citizens Bank
 Genentech, Inc.
 Genworth Foundation
 Hedgehog Management, Inc.
 Hewlett Packard Enterprise
 IBM International Foundation
 Intel Corporation
 Lenovo Employees Care
 Microsoft
 Northwestern Mutual Foundation
 Oracle Corporation
 The Pentair Foundation
 Qualcomm Matching Grant Program
 Quintiles Matching Gift Program
 Red Hat Matching Funds
 SAS Employee Volunteer Fund

In-Kind Gifts

David Chapin and Meg Revelle
 Jonathan and Betsy Green
 The Greig Family
 Hedgehog Holdings, LLC
 Charles Long, Centerline Digital
 Nancy Renn
 SAS Institute, Inc.
 Vincent Smith and Carrie Dow-Smith

Raleigh Charter High School Foundation

Sonali and Parag Birla
 James and Susan Hager
 The Keim Family
 The Meyerhoffer Family
 Elizabeth Iaquina
 GlaxoSmithKline
 Exact Science
 Fidelity Foundation
 Matching Gifts to Education

Foundation Fund

Anonymous (4)
 The Ayerbe Family
 L. Boulkina and S. Tsynkov
 Robert Bradley
 The Callanan Family
 in memory of Angela Callanan Joseph
 Joseph Conder
 Todd and Catherine Davis
 Lorna DeWalle
 Daniel Dittman
 The Elam Family
 Santiago and Mary Michaels Estrada
 Matthew and Kathryn Gerber
 Joe and Joanne Gerber
 David Goodwin
 The Green Family
 The Greene Family
 Brent and Felicia Heyward
 Steven and Simone Horvitz
 Thomas and Sally Humble
 Stephen Humphries and Helena Oakley
 Elizabeth and Randal Karsten
 Patricia Reid
 Steve and Carolyn Jackson
 Ben, Nick, Jared, and Lisa Kempton
 Mike and Heidi King
 Arnold and Jane King
 John and Debbie Kotecki
 Craig and Becky Lightfoot
 The Lane Family
 Rashmi Mehta
 Patrick and Michelle Murray
 Eric and Diana Parsons
 Supriya and Gautam Patnaik
 Keith and Graham Satsky
 Charles and Jodi Long
 Anne and Paul Scott
 Keith and Pat Sharp
 Vincent Smith and Carrie Dow-Smith
 Larry Sommers
 David and Sharon Spitz
 Dirk and Anne Steckmann
 Alice and Christian Tate
 Corinne and Martin Thiele
 Beth and Scott White

BBVA Compass Bank
 Cisco Matching Gifts
 GlaxoSmithKline
 Intel Corporation
 Qualcomm Matching Grant Program
 Quintiles Matching Gift Program

20 Years Learning Together

From the beginning, our mission here at RCHS has been to educate **knowledgeable, thoughtful, contributing** citizens in an **active, social, creative** learning environment. Our dedicated teachers are always developing new ways to engage our students. In every classroom, every day, students and teachers are working together to expand their knowledge and deepen their understanding of the world around us. Our alumni often reflect on the many lessons they learned from their favorite teachers. As we reflect on the past two decades, we asked our teachers to share what they have learned from teaching at Raleigh Charter.

Each day as I drive home, I recall something that I learned **that** day from my students.
 ~ Dr. Cynthia Brown

I've learned that the most effective teaching technique is caring about the students and letting them know how much I care.
 ~ Ms. Barbara Soloman

Kindness and strength can exist simultaneously.
 ~ Ms. Becky Schmitz

The potential for intellectual growth in human teenagers is tremendous and deeply enriching to behold.
 ~ Dr. Amy Marschall

I've learned how to learn. Teaching requires growth. The growth is a challenging, but enjoyable process.
 ~ Mr. Hikaru Wajima



These founding faculty members have worked at RCHS since 1999!

1. If you have a large number of loose sodas in the back of your room, waiting for the next pizza day, someone in your advisory will build a castle with them.
2. The castle will fall, causing cans to rupture and spray said student, classmates, and teacher with a less-than-delectable mixture of Dr. Pepper and Mountain Dew.
3. You and your advisory will laugh uncontrollably even with soda dripping down your face.
4. I have learned that I love this job, I would never want to have to do this job at some other school, and I hope that one day I actually live up to the title of Teacher at RCHS.
 ~ Mr. Bob Hussey

Let's Celebrate!

Current families, faculty, and friends are invited to a special anniversary celebration.

RALEIGH CHARTER'S 20TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Friday, May 10 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at RCHS

FOOD TRUCKS + DESSERT + MUSIC + GAMES

Invitations + more information will be sent in the Spring.

We make every effort to ensure that this listing of donors is accurate. Please contact Carolyn Jackson at cjackson@raleighcharterhs.org with corrections.

*Thank you to the many donors who contributed in support of our **Drama, Athletics, We the People, and student assistance programs.** We are grateful to those who **donated in-kind gifts of bookshelves, carbon monoxide detectors, computer monitors, a lighting set, an electronic keyboard, office chairs, costume materials for Drama productions, Chromebooks, and patio furniture.***

Raleigh Charter Is Possible Because of You!

Thanks to contributions from our caring and generous families, we have...



- Moved from Pilot Mill to our permanent home on Glenwood Avenue.
- Managed to fund our budget when per-pupil funding plummeted.
- Kept class size low despite these reductions in per-pupil funding.
- Launched and maintained Flex Days and Community Work Days.
- Designed and offered new student opportunities like Phoenix Fest.
- Purchased new textbooks at \$5,000 - \$15,000 per course.
- Expanded our digital-learning initiative.

What's Your 20?

In honor of our 20th year, we ask you to consider how you will contribute to our school.

\$20 per semester this year = \$40 \$20 per month this year = \$240 \$20 per school day this year = \$3,700
 \$20 per class this year = \$120 \$20 per week this year = \$1,040 \$20 per class per day this year = \$22,200

Or be creative and make up your own! \$20 per _____ = _____

ALUMNI: What's Your 20?

A Special Message to Our Forever Phoenix from James Kotecki, RCHS Board Member, Class of 2004

I give back to RCHS because Raleigh Charter teachers and staff gave me a unique way to think about the world and to care about community. Today, our Raleigh Charter community is still going strong, but it doesn't happen by accident.

Before I became a board member, I had a vague notion that Raleigh Charter's teachers were all getting elite bonus pay for being the best of the best. Turns out I was half right: our teachers are the best, but many of them could actually make more money by teaching in Wake County's traditional public school system. If you run the numbers, you'll see that the teachers who have been with Raleigh Charter since the beginning

In other words, what's an amount you can give that is both connected to our 20th Anniversary and emotionally resonant for you?

have given up the equivalent of *two years salary* to teach here.

The good news is that your board is constantly looking for ways to give our teachers extra support. The better news is that this year, your Raleigh Charter classmates are coming together to help. The question we're asking is *What's Your 20?*

For example, you could give \$20 in honor of each teacher you had in your 4 years (24, assuming no repeats) for a total of \$480. You could give \$20 for every time you feel a sense of nerd pride when you tell someone you're an RCHS graduate. That amount would hopefully be in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000!

The amount isn't really the point. What matters is that it matters to you.

Imagine what your high school experience would've been like if your favorite teacher had made the decision to work elsewhere. *What's Your 20?* is your way to say thank you for sticking around.

What's Your 20?

- \$0.20 per day for 365 days = \$73
- \$20 per year at RCHS = \$80
- \$20 per month this year = \$240
- \$20 per course for 4 years = \$480
- \$20 per year since graduation = ?

We Rely on Support from All Phoenix Families.

Every Gift Matters.

We appreciate your contributions to either of our two funds.



Raleigh Charter High School
PHOENIX FUND
Every family. Every year.

The PHOENIX FUND is operational. It pays for today.

The Phoenix Fund is our annual fundraising appeal. Donations are used to supplement limited per-pupil state funding. The Phoenix Fund supports **small class sizes, technology, textbooks, college counseling, community service, the arts,** and much more.

To contribute to The **Phoenix Fund**, direct your payment to

Raleigh Charter High School

Fill out a **Blue Card** or donate online at raleighcharterhs.org/giving

Raleigh Charter High School
Foundation Fund
 SUPPORTING TEACHERS & CLASSROOMS

The FOUNDATION FUND is aspirational. It secures the school for our future students.

Donations to The Foundation Fund will be used to steadily and sustainably **increase compensation for our dedicated faculty.** The Foundation Fund will also secure our classrooms by replenishing reserves used for **major building maintenance.**

To contribute to The **Foundation Fund**, direct your payment to

Raleigh Charter High School Foundation, Inc.

Fill out at pledge form or donate online at raleighcharterhs.org/giving/foundationfund.asp



Donate Today!

- Write a Check*
- Set Up Automatic Payments*
- Donate Stock
- Give Online
- Ask Your Employer to Match Your Gift
- Participate in a Workplace Giving Campaign such as CFC, SECC, or United Way

*These methods incur no fees so RCHS will receive 100% of your donation!

Raleigh Charter High School, Inc. and Raleigh Charter High School Foundation, Inc. are two separate 501(c)3 charitable organizations. Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. To learn more about how you can support RCHS, contact Carolyn Jackson, Director of Development, by email (cjackson@raleighcharterhs.org) or phone (919)-715-1155.

Calling All Forever Phoenix Alumni & Alumni Parents

Please join us in June 2019 for our

20TH ANNIVERSARY & REUNION CELEBRATION WEEKEND



Celebrating Twenty Years Together

**RALEIGH CHARTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

1999 - 2019

Friday, June 14:

Evening:

Class Reunions organized by alumni
at off-campus venues*

Saturday, June 15:

Morning:

Current & Former Faculty Panel Discussion
with Alumni

Lunch:

Lunch Buffet for Alumni & Faculty

Afternoon:

Phoenix Family Festival
for Alumni & their Families

Registration will open in March! Check your email and our website for details.

**Interested in planning a class reunion during the Anniversary Weekend?
Email alumni@raleighcharterhs.org to get started!*

RCHS Events At-A-Glance

- January 7 **Annual Alumni & Faculty Winter Coffee**, RCCHS, 1:30 - 3:00 PM
- January 28 - February 28 **Application Period for 2019-2020 School Year**
- February 1 & 7 **Informational Meetings for Prospective Families**, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
- March 1-3, 7-9 **RCCHS Drama presents *Legally Blonde, Jr.***; Burning Coal Theatre
- March 8 & 15 **Flex Days**
- March 22 **Admissions Lottery for 2019-2020 School Year**, RCCHS, 4:00 pm
- April 26 **Spring Community Work Day**
- April 26 **SOOTS Cake Bake & Art Farm**, RCCHS, 1:00 - 3:30 PM
- Spring Concerts** **Choral** (May 2), **Strings** (May 21), **Band** (April 25*), William Peace University, 7:30 PM
- May 10 **RCCHS 20th Birthday Party** with Current Families, RCCHS, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- June 8 **Graduation**, Meymandi Concert Hall, 4:00 PM
- June 15 **RCCHS 20th Anniversary Alumni Reunion & Celebration** (Registration opens in March.)

**Corrected from previous publication.*

Connect with RCCHS!



Online
raleighcharterhs.org



Like us on
Facebook



Follow us on
Twitter



Alumni News
raleighcharterhs.org/alumni



Raleigh Charter Alumni
Facebook Group