



## The Road to 1717

## October 5, 2018

Dear Friends of Cristo Rey Philadelphia,

Everyone at Cristo Rey is excited about the move to the Tioga neighborhood, but I hope we never forget the roots of our mission that grew strong in our first seven years at the former Holy Child School in Logan. Let's hear from our Princpal, Michael Gomez, on this point.

Sincerely,

John McConnell Founder and President

Dear Cristo Rey Community,

"One last time." Because of our move to our new campus at 1717 West Allegheny Ave. in June, I am sure that we will be thinking about the idea of "one last time" throughout our school year. I am sure teachers will be thinking about the last time they have to search for a parking spot in the morning that might be three blocks from school. Scholar-athletes will be excited to take a van one last time to find gym space for basketball practice. Our art teachers will be pleased to utilize the science lab one last time for their classroom. And students will be grateful for the last time they need to squeeze through crowded hallways to get to class.

Also, at some point, it will be the last time we gather and celebrate our students in Our Lady of Hope— the very first place we gathered with our students as a community. At some point, we will have our last Friday assembly in an over-crowded Social Hall



— a place that has hosted so many events etched in Cristo Rey history like Work-Study Signing Day and College Selection Day. And finally, I will ask our teachers to pack up their books, unplug their projectors, and close the doors of their classrooms, one last time.

Some of these "last times" are very good last times. However, there are other "last times" that will fill us with memories, gratitude and a hint of sadness as we close our first chapter in the history of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School.

But none of these "last times" change who we are. They don't change our values, and they don't change what gets us out of bed every morning. Whether we are 5218 or 1717, we are always Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School. Not one last time. But all the time. Same home...different house.

While it is awesome to look ahead to 1717, there is much excitement in the building concerning this current academic year. Since we opened our doors in August 2012, we have never let success or attachment to the familiar stifle our fierce desire to get better. With that in mind, here are some additions and changes we have made this year:

- · Expanded our math curriculum by adding Statistics and A.P. Calculus.
- · Added an Art class to senior year— one that compliments the current junior year offering.
- · Added a Financial Literacy class to sophomore year and senior year.
- · Hired an additional college counselor in order to care for our alumni in college more closely.
- $\cdot$  Expanded our Academic Support Program in order to reach more students and assigned a full-time staff member to direct it.



These are just some of the changes we have made as we continue to live out our idea to build up, build on, and build always.

St. Augustine reminds us that what binds us together is a common agreement on what we love. At CRPHS, it is our students. It is our number one responsibility. Please be assured, that is the unwavering commitment our faculty and staff have made.

Blue Pride Forever,

Michael Gomez, Ed.D. Principal



Check out our latest video from Work-Study Signing Day 2018 — held in the Social Hall of 5218 one last time!

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