



# President's Newsletter

Road to 1717

**September 5, 2018**

Dear Friends of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School,

August 13th was opening day for the class of 2022 and, by the first week of September, we are operating at full speed and full capacity.

All of the students, and everyone in our community, know that this year will be an exciting chapter in the rapidly developing story of Cristo Rey Philadelphia.

The class of 2022 is 149 students strong; total enrollment has grown to 511; 252 (88%) of our graduates are persisting in college; and applications for the class of 2023 are at record levels. Families know that Cristo Rey is "the school that works." They value our rigorous program and our diverse and welcoming culture.



Our faculty and staff have grown to 80 mission driven, hardworking, tough loving superstars. This year, thirteen new superstars joined our team. We welcome their fresh perspectives and new ideas. They will help us launch new programs like financial literacy, project-based engineering, personal health and nutrition. We have also added a second counselor to focus on supporting Cristo Rey graduates who are enrolled in college.



*Faculty and Staff 2018-2019*

On June 15th, 2019, after the last day of school this year, we will begin to move Cristo Rey Philadelphia from 5218 N. Broad Street to our new home at 1717 W. Allegheny Ave.

We have been building the road to 1717 for more than four years and everyone is excited by the future that our new campus promises. We have launched transition teams to focus on logistics, safety, furniture, and culture. We are creating programs and spaces to be offered at the new campus to support adult education and other community needs. Just last week, on Monday, August 27th, we had our first annual "We Serve Day" in our new Tioga neighborhood.



*Students, Dr. Gomez, and Officer Lukaitis work together to clean streets in Tioga at first annual "We Serve Day."*



*New school construction site makes continued progress, including the parking lot and foundations for the gym.*

At the end of 2018 we will exceed our \$40 million goal for the capital campaign: "Building a Home for the School that Works." The next chapter of Cristo Rey will begin in July of 2019, in a beautiful and efficient campus built on a solid financial foundation.

We are proud of our first seven years but we are even more excited by the road ahead. It was never our goal to be good enough; our sights are set on being best for our students. We think we are on the way.

We believe in our future because we believe in the strength of our community. The Catholic character of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School impels us to be catholic - to be universal, inclusive and welcoming. Our mission appeals to a diverse group of individuals and organizations that choose solidarity and cooperation to confront the crisis of poverty that is devastating our community.

We are most grateful to all of you who are collaborating with us to launch the future of Cristo Rey Philadelphia.

Sincerely,

John McConnell  
Founder and President

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**Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School**

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