

Has God blessed you?

And how can God use *YOU* to bless your alma mater?

– a letter from the BRCS Superintendent



Dear families and friends of Blue Ridge Christian School,

As the new superintendent, I would like to introduce myself to you. I have been a Christian educator for over 35 years, starting my journey as a preschool teacher, continuing on to elementary, transitioning to middle school and high school, then culminating for the past decade in administration.



Most of my educational journey and career has been in Christian or independent private schools where I have seen educational and cultural practices evolve while staying current with best practices and educational trends. Yet with all this transitioning, I have concluded the common ingredient that infuses a school with worth is not the trends or practices, but rather the measure of shared family values that it supports and perpetuates. A great school touches the lives and

hearts of its constituents with lasting impact. BRCS has historically been such a school.

A divinely blessed heritage

Although I have only been part of the school for a short time, I have heard incredible stories from teachers, alumni, and current students of how God has sustained and carried the school through the past 45 years, how lives were forever changed, and legacies lived out. The Christian heritage of BRCS is rich in divine reward and blessing. There is absolutely no question that God raised up the school to impact lives and prepare students for life in a world that desperately needs truth.



New challenges

As with any private educational institution, BRCS not only revels in its past rewarding ministry, but also prayerfully considers the challenges of the present. While considering these challenges for myself, I have discovered that the most pressing challenge facing the school is the need for the school family to join the with the church to meet some very critical needs.

Historically, Blue Ridge Bible Church has largely carried the burden to sustain the ministry of BRCS. However, the rising costs of an aging building have consumed many of the church's demanded resources that once enabled each of you to enjoy the luxury of solidly supported educational programming. This reallocation of church funding necessitates a new area in the school life that, as with most private schools, calls upon its alumni to join forces and begin meeting those budgetary needs through tuition and tax deductible contributions and donations of skill and expertise from Blue Ridge Christian School's family and friends.

As the sovereignly appointed new school superintendent who is opening the next chapter of the unfolding story of BRCS, I am compelled by love for Christ, and love for education, to ask you—the friends and family of BRCS—to rise to the occasion and help this generation of students access the same quality of school education that you experienced, where students are known, cared for, and can mature while saturated in an environment that supports a Christian worldview. I am reaching out to you as partners in the ministry and asking you to pay it forward by generously supporting as the Lord has blessed you. The fight for the next godly generation is always fought by those who came before.



7 ways you can help

The school needs your help through prayer for guidance as it maneuvers through a difficult school market. It has always been the goal to be doing what we are called to do. Some changes are needed to upgrade and meet the needs of the 21st century school. I know you want to know specifically how you can help.

Following is a list of ideas that would be a huge blessing:

1. **Sponsor financial aid for a deserving student.** The school would be happy to connect you with a student that needs financial support. You could pay a whole year of tuition upfront or simply give a monthly donation toward a student bill. Some of you have been so blessed that you could sponsor several students with ease. Please take up the torch for these younger Blue Ridge students and make the Christian school experience possible for someone in the next generation. Currently, there are over 50 students who would appreciate financial support to attend Blue Ridge in the 2014-1015 school year.
2. **Sponsor a program.** Athletics, Music, Performing Arts, Technology, or Academics are all areas that extra support would aid in better options for this generation of Blue Ridge students. Donations in honor of Mrs. Lee, Mr. Becker, Mrs. Franz, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Crank, or any other of your favorite Blue Ridge teachers, are the ultimate way to say "Thank You" for these who made such an impact on your lives.

3. **Sponsor a line item from our budget.** The school is in need of re-roofing the flat roof over the library as well as resurfacing the parking lot. If you could help with either of these projects, it would make a tremendous difference in the timing in which these are accomplished. Other areas of sponsorship are snow removal, lawn care, contractual upgrades to the building, and of course, daily operational expenses. I know that God has given several of you the ability to give to these areas with your time, money, and expertise and know you will be blessed by choosing to pay it forward.

4. **Sponsor Technology.** The school has undergone major upgrades in our technological abilities, but there is much more to accomplish. This past year we purchased three interactive boards and projectors for classroom use, installed wireless internet, did a major upgrade to the networking system, upgraded teacher computers, and created a new website (www.blueridgechristiankc.com). We are still in need of additional upgrades, software, iPads and chromebooks for the classroom, a few more projectors, laptops for the teachers, a couple of nice school cameras, and the list goes on. Get on board and help your alma mater get up to par. The mayor has approved the school as a recipient of Google Fiber and, upon hook up, the school will have the ability to soar with technological advances. Be a part of something that will strengthen our students and help them train to be the best students possible.



5. **Sponsor memberships into online learning sites.** (Discovery Streaming, IXL math, Reading A-Z, Time for Kids, Rental of e-textbooks, etc.) These memberships allow our students to study globally and take advantage of the latest information and preparations to compete for college scholarships, internships, and community leadership.

6. **Sponsor the school transportation department.** Sponsorships of \$100 make a field trip possible and will help with the daily bus route. In addition to monetary contributions, if God has blessed you with the means to drive a bus or the skill to maintain a bus, we need your help.

7. **Sponsor extracurricular needs.** The school continually has needs for coaching, substitute teaching, volunteer work, and general fundraising. Have you been blessed in one of these areas? We need you to consider what God would have you do to support these vital parts of the school offerings.

Please seriously consider how you can make a difference in the life of your alma mater. I have been called to share with you the needs and know many of you are now led to come forth and meet those needs. If you would like to contact me to discuss these, or other ideas, you can contact me at kreynolds@blueridgechristiankc.com. I need your help, Blue Ridge Christian School needs your help, and the current generation of Blue Ridge students need your help. We want to invite you to share in, and be part of, what God is doing at Blue Ridge Christian School. Do not miss out on the blessing that can be yours as we prepare our next generation.

Donate now at <http://blueridgechristiankc.com/donate/>.

Gathering God's Army,

Mrs. Kathy Reynolds

Superintendent Blue Ridge Christian School