

Steve Danish, Head of School Emeritus 6915 Braddock Road Springfield, VA 22151

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Dear Friend of ICS,

We're bursting at the seams at ICS!

It's a record year with 585 students — 152 of whom are in the new high school. In a year when so many other schools showed decline, our students excelled! In fact, AP scores in the high school are <u>far</u> better than other AP scores in Virginia and even nationwide. (*see the enclosed brochure*)

That's why I'm thrilled to share some other fantastic news: The Stanley Herzog Foundation and several friends of the school have come together to <u>MATCH every gift</u> to ICS between now and December 31 — *up to \$850,000!*

This is an incredible blessing as we are on a tight schedule to get the LAST floor in our new High School finished before next fall. Thanks to the generous help of friends like you, the high school is **75% finished** — but now we must raise the funds to complete the fourth and final floor by December 31, so we can make room for every rising 9th grader!

This match is an amazing way to leverage your giving and **BUILD FOR THE FUTURE**. If you are at all able to give before December 31 — your gift can be doubled by this generous match. For example, if you invest \$100, it will instantly become \$200 to ICS... or if you give \$500, it can become \$1000.

I know this is a big investment that you may or may not be able to do right now —

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but please pray about it and give as the Lord leads. *After all, what is more important than the faith and education of our children and grandchildren?*

As you know, I'm no longer in the role of being the day-to-day Head of School, but I am so thrilled to be serving in an Emeritus role with our Capital Campaign — <u>because I love ICS and I know just how VITAL it is to the future of our children and</u> <u>grandchildren.</u>

You are making it possible for students like Hannah to be here at ICHS. She sent us a note the other day that said, "*The faculty and staff have inspired me to pursue a leadership style that is rooted in the imitation of Christ. It is such a blessing to attend a school like ICHS* — *I am thankful for every day I get to spend learning about the world through a Christian worldview.*" I can't wait to see the amazing impact these students will make on the world because of what they're learning here at ICS!

As COVID hit and we began seeing the massive failure of many school systems — we knew hundreds of students were going to need a quality, Christian education! Other failures set off a full-blown crisis that we witnessed firsthand here in Northern Virginia.

What are the options for Christian families — especially as we see so many young people from Christian homes abandoning their faith because of what they're being taught?

That's why our amazing Biblical Worldview & Apologetics curriculum in the high school is so critical. We are helping high schoolers wrestle with the big questions in our culture right now.

We do a deep dive into Scripture, its history and its application. Our teacher, Jake Kounter, takes relevant issues of the day, tough questions about God and culture and puts them up for discussion. Together, they examine the best arguments on both sides, view it from a historical and biblical perspective and wrestle with how to apply what they learn in a way that is consistent with scriptural truth. *The engagement, interaction and results are unlike anything we've seen before.*

Our TravelTerm Abroad courses are just as unique — as are the advanced Life as a Classroom modules in Fine Arts, STEM and Business Entrepreneurship. The value of these curriculums in developing critical thinking skills, real-life experience and effective leadership are such that we hope to one day soon offer key curriculums to many students in other locales. But first we must finish our high school building and make room for our rising 9th graders. —continued

God has blessed ICS with so much over our 46-year history.

We have a strategic location, just 10 miles from the capital of our nation. God has given us incredible influence and success with families and alumni who are already making a difference for the Lord in many ways.

Our faculty is amazing in their depth of knowledge, experience, and ability. I love that God has given us exceptional teachers like Paul Wohlers — a former ambassador to Macedonia — teaching International Affairs to our students, and experienced mathematicians like Sharon Webb, a former teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

Our unique curriculum is aimed at raising up great leaders for the future. Even the building is a blessing with its innovative architecture and repurposed use. Many visitors have been surprised walking into our high school saying it feels like a college campus.

But most of all, God has blessed us with generous friends and supporters like you!

I am so grateful for all the time and resources you have invested into ICS already. You are making an impact every day on so many students through your prayers and generosity. *Did you know friends like you have helped raise more than \$11 million for this campaign already?* It's been amazing to see God at work!

Now we're in the final phase, raising the last \$3.4 million needed to finish our high school building so more students can access this incredible preparation for life.

The fourth and final floor will have four new classrooms, a Physics/STEM Lab, a student café and meeting area, and rotating teacher offices. When we finish this last floor, it will give us room for over 200 students in the high school — enough room for all of our rising 9th graders.

I'd so appreciate your help — especially since YOU already know the positive influence ICS has had on your own family and friends. *What might God do as we expand that positive impact to other families?*

That's why I hope you will help with the most generous gift you can give this year — perhaps \$200 or \$400 — while your gift can have DOUBLE the impact!

Everyone who contributes \$1,000 or more will be listed on a plaque that will be permanently placed in our Heart & Mind Center at ICHS.

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Wouldn't it be wonderful to see your family remembered on the walls of our high school for generations to come?

Never in the history of America has a distinctively *Christian high school* education been more critically needed for our students, our families, and our country. That's why I hope you'll consider investing generously today.

Maybe you can give a gift of appreciated stock or make a pledge. Please pray about it with your family and give generously before December 31 — while your gift can have double the impact through this special year-end match.

I know inflation and the general state of the economy has been rough on many families this year. But if you are in a position to help with a special gift toward this match opportunity, I pray you will. Thank you so much for joining with us in **building for the future** of our children, our grandchildren, and our country.

In Christ, Steve Damish

Steve Danish Head of School Emeritus

P.S. We are 75% of the way done! This generous match will DOUBLE every gift now and help finish the last floor of our high school in time to welcome every rising 9th grader next fall. It thrilled me to hear what one of our grandparents at the school had to say:

"Our prayers were answered when we heard ICS was expanding and adding a high school program. Supporting the capital campaign is a priority for us. The opportunity to have our grandchildren in a Christian atmosphere, growing their faith while they are learning and shaping their academic future, couldn't be more important!"

I hope you feel the same way. Thank you in advance for making it a priority to **Build for the Future** of our children and grandchildren.