

Foundation Campaign: Thanks to YOU, Our Dream is Coming True!

We will pay off the bond on our building this fall!

YOU are making it happen

- Nearly a decade ago, we established the RCHS Foundation Fund as a way to raise funds – above and beyond the Phoenix Fund – to improve teacher compensation and maintain our school building for the long term. Through the Foundation Campaign, ***our community has raised over \$1,150,000*** towards the \$1,500,000 needed to pay off the bond.
- ***We still have \$350,000 left to raise towards our goal;*** however, we will be able to retire the bond using a smaller, interest-free loan from the Tom Russell Charitable Foundation, a steadfast supporter of RCHS since our early days as a school.

Teacher salaries will be increased this school year

- Since the founding of RCHS, we have dreamed of being able to pay our teachers in a way that better reflects their dedication to our school. Later this school year, each member of our faculty and staff will receive a 5% to 7% increase in their salary - ***raising salaries to the highest level of the Wake County pay scale.***
- Why not now? Due to delays in the legislature regarding funding, we will need to wait until the state budget and county funding have been released before we can implement the salary increase. Once the increase takes effect, faculty and staff will also receive a retroactive payment from August 1, 2025.

We still need your generous financial support

- Implementing this salary raise is a meaningful step forward, but our work towards improving compensation is not finished and the funding challenges to our budget remain real and ongoing. Nationally, when adjusted for inflation, the average salary of classroom teachers has actually decreased by an estimated 5.1 percent from 2015-16 to 2024-25 and state and local funding levels remain low.
- Our partnership with the Russell Foundation relieves us of the interest expense; however, we need continued support from our community to pay back the loan.

Our teachers are our greatest asset. We must continue to work together to ensure that salaries, bonuses, and benefits continue to improve for all of our educators. And, we must continue to plan for the major building maintenance expenses – like replacing our air conditioning system and windows – we know we will face in the coming years.

Thank you for partnering with us in our mission to provide excellent education to each and every one of our students.

With gratitude,

Jameson Marks '03
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Raleigh Charter High School

PHOENIX FUND

Every family. Every year.

Our yearly campaign for
vital, operational support

\$325,000 is our annual goal

Raleigh Charter is committed to an educational model defined by
small classes taught by experienced, passionate, dedicated teachers.

We have seen great success using this model and it continues to be a critical part of our mission. However, these small classes and experienced teachers come at ***a significant financial cost.***

Every year, ***low per-pupil allocations*** and the ***uncertainty of state and local funding*** challenge our budget and our ability to plan.

Your donations play ***a critical role in our ability to maintain this model*** and we are fortunate to have a long history of strong support from our families. We encourage you to be part of this tradition of giving by donating to RCHS today.

Your Phoenix Fund contributions allow us to...

- Keep class sizes small
- Pay the salaries of our dedicated teachers and staff
- Provide our classroom resources such as technology, textbooks and basic supplies.
- Pay expenses for our school building including utilities and maintenance.
- and so much more!

**Your support
makes RCHS
possible!**

Scan to watch a video
about the Phoenix Fund



We strive for 100% participation
from our current families.

Every gift of every size makes a difference!
No gift is too large or too small.

Ready to support RCHS now?
Use the QR code to donate online!



Turn over for info about our Foundation Campaign >>>

In addition to the Phoenix Fund, we encourage you to support...

The Foundation Campaign

Investing in Our Teachers, Securing Our Future

www.raleighcharterhs.org/foundation-fund

Separate from the Phoenix Fund, our Foundation Campaign is a special multi-year initiative with the purpose of raising funds to **pay off the bond on our building so that we can raise teacher salaries** to the highest level of the local pay scale. Since 2021, our community has raised more than \$1,150,000 towards the \$1,500,000 goal. Donations to the RCHS Foundation will enable us to **raise teacher salaries this school year**. Your continuing support is needed to ensure we can sustain the salary increase, provide bonuses, keep up with the growing costs of benefits, and maintain our school building for the longterm.

We ask parents to please support the Phoenix Fund. If you can do more, your additional gift to the RCHS Foundation will help our school now and into the future.

Your continued contributions to the Foundation Campaign are needed because...

Public education funding remains low.

- When adjusted for inflation, average teacher salaries have decreased by more than 5% in the past 10 years.*
- N.C. ranked 43rd in the U.S. for teacher pay and 36th for per-pupil funding for the 2023-24 school year.*
- Wake County provides a salary increase for National Board Certified Teachers, which means many RCHS teachers are making 5-7% less teaching at RCHS than they would in the Wake County Public School System.
- Additionally, RCHS teachers are not part of the State Retirement plan.

RCHS teachers are highly-qualified, experienced, and dedicated.

- 70% of RCHS teachers hold advanced degrees
- RCHS teachers have an average of 19 years of classroom experience
- More than half of our teachers have taught at RCHS for 10 years or more

*National Education Association (NEA) Rankings & Estimates Report, April 2025.

Fall 2025 Matching Gift Challenge

Last year, an alumni family generously matched \$250,000 in donations... and now they are offering to do it again!

**Gifts or pledges of
\$10,000 (or more)
received by
Dec. 31, 2025
will be matched!**

If you are interested in discussing a gift or pledge towards this challenge please contact Margaret Barnett.
(Contact info below)

Have questions or want to learn more about supporting RCHS?

Contact Margaret Barnett '08, Director of Development & Communications,
at mbarnett@raleighcharterhs.org or 919-715-1155.

Raleigh Charter High School and the Raleigh Charter High School Foundation are two separate 501(c)(3) charitable organizations. Your gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.