



Parklands
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Dear Parents,

Greetings.

Twenty years ago the doors of Parklands Christian College were opened. With a small founding team, we set out to build a school based on relationship and a sincere desire for each child to find their God given gifts and purpose during their journey through the school.

As the Founding Principal, I reflect on the many moments when the College future was at risk, and how we came through with the cooperation of the whole School community working together. Parklands has been blessed through the relationships and connections with our community, but there is still much more to be done.

Our school has had excellent financial management for over two decades, however today we face a crisis equal to any of those early challenges. The impact of the worldwide virus is affecting every aspect of normal life and activity.

The governing body of Parklands has met many times through this growing crisis to ensure the protection of our students and staff and the long term continuation of the College.

These are times that I believe requires an extraordinary response.

I am writing to encourage you and to explain how the Parklands community can work together for the good of the school, our students and our families. The current economic climate has and will continue to create financial stress for some time to come and we want to offer assistance to our families who are struggling as a result of the present crisis.

Parklands as a school receives government funds each year based on our enrolments. The biggest contributor is the Commonwealth Government which funds us on the basis of our enrolment numbers in August. The State government also supports us to a much lesser amount based on enrolments in February. These funds are necessary to staff and resource the student's education, but it is our parents' valuable fee contribution that helps build and develop the school and its programs.

Our enrolment numbers are vital for sound financial planning and a large withdrawal of students prior to August could make the School unviable. At this stage it is imperative that the school reaches the August census with all our students.

The best solution is to stay and work together, helping each other. The primary focus, at this time, is to minimise the effect of this crisis on your children. Our aim is to reduce disruptions to their education while being fully supportive of families by helping them stay in the school. Further to this, it is important that all staff are retained which will require trimming our finances back to focus only on delivering education. Capital development will be deferred to a future time when this crisis has passed.

I have been very transparent herein, explaining the ways of school funding. To achieve our collective outcome, I ask that those who can pay full fees, would continue to do so. For those who will struggle, let us identify together the amount you can



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continue to contribute. For those who can't contribute at this time due to financial circumstances, it is imperative that your students do not leave, because your children's attendance will still bring significant grants to the school in August. There will be no "catch up later" for anyone. This is a family caring for each other. We will do this month by month, and trust that we have sufficient for our needs.

We can do it together as a family.

As the Chief Executive Officer, I invite you to partner with our Parklands community, as we will leave no one behind – not staff, not families nor students. Our children need not be affected. It can be school as normal, albeit with increased care for health and safety.

The Board of Management and the Principal are completely committed to do whatever it takes to get our students, our staff and school through these uncertain and trying times by engaging the whole community to act together. What a legacy we can leave by standing together in the face of very real adversity. By working together we can add another chapter to the miracle story that is "Parklands".

God bless you all in this difficult time.

Ps David Baskerville
Chief Executive Officer
Parklands Christian College

John Blasé
Board Chairman

Gary Cully
Principal

Ps Mike Warman
Board Member