

## From the Desk of Dr. Jahna Duda



I recently had the opportunity to visit a school for a re-accreditation visit after having been part of the school's accreditation team five years ago. Over the course of the week, it was a blessing to encourage another school leader and his team in the growth I observed as evident in their enrollment numbers, improved faculty well-being, and enhanced academic programs.

As our visiting team met with a faculty focus group one afternoon, a team member said, "God is *deeply* pleased with what you do. He handpicked you for this role. He always has other options, but He chose YOU." My eyes filled with tears as I reflected on the profound nature of that statement, and imagined myself saying the same encouraging words to you.

God is deeply pleased with our partnership in His mission at Rockford Christian School. He hand selected each one of us to be part of His work, and ensure the children and adolescents in our care thrive spiritually, excel academically, and live boldly for Jesus Christ. I can think of no greater opportunity than to be a steward of His work. I pray this phrase resonates in our hearts and minds throughout Thanksgiving and the upcoming Christmas season, and that we, as a community, experience His love and pleasure with what we are doing here in deep, meaningful ways.

Bret and I are incredibly grateful for each of you. Your friendship, prayers, support, and partnership are a blessing to us, and you have helped make Rockford "home." We pray you have a blessed Thanksgiving, and enjoy your time with friends and family. Thank you for all you do at RC.

Blessings,  
Dr. Jahna Duda



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## RC Parent University

Rockford Christian School launched its first Parent University, a series of educational topics and discussions relevant for today's parents who are raising the next generation of Christian thought-leaders and world changers. If you missed the first one on November 8 about breaking free from the trap of overparenting, you can watch [this TED Talk](#)

entitled "How to raise successful kids without overparenting" by author Julie Lythcott-Haims. I've also included the [presentation](#) from that evening as well as [recommended resources](#) from the author.

Our next Parent U will be in February 2024. Watch for more information after Christmas break.



## Year-End Gifts to Rockford Christian

In a season filled with messages of gratitude and generosity, we take special note of the blessings we have received and the many opportunities we have to bless others. We are grateful for those who went before us to establish the legacy of excellence found at Rockford Christian and for the many families who invite us to walk alongside them as students discover and grow in their God-given purpose. Your year-end gift to Rockford Christian ensures that our partnership continues to impact the lives of Royal Lion students. To make a year-end contribution to Rockford Christian, click [here](#). Thank you for your faithful support of our mission.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR

# A ROYAL LION Christmas

December 7 ~ 6:30 PM  
"Away in A Mango" (Grades 1-4)

December 13 ~ 6:30 PM  
Choir Christmas Concert (Grades 5-12)

December 14 ~ 6:30 PM  
Band Christmas Concert (Grades 5-12)  
5:30 PM Art Show & Jazz Entertainment

December 15 ~ 6:30 PM  
"Our Jesus Tree" (Early Childhood)

All Christmas events will take place in the Blue Gym at the Upper School campus.

## Worthy Servants

Rockford Christian has a tradition of collecting a special offering for our faculty and staff at Christmastime. The Worthy Servants Fund provides an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication to our servant-hearted faculty and staff who educate, inspire, challenge, and support Royal Lion



students each day. To support these worthy individuals, please join us at one of our Christmas celebrations where our Worthy Servants offerings will be collected, or click [here](#) to contribute. Thank you for your generous gift to our Royal Lion faculty and staff this Christmas season!

## Congratulations!

We are so proud of our Royal Lions and would like to congratulate the following students on their recent athletic and Fine Arts accomplishments!

- Boys cross country team members Weston Forward (12) who placed 11th in the state and Andrew Kurien (11) for placing 14th
- Brooke Corrigan (11) who placed 11th in the 50-free and 9th in the 100-free at state, and will compete in the Winter Junior Nationals
- Emily Johns (8) who won 5th chair in the All Illinois Junior Band



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to our 2023-2024 Royal Lion  
Ultimate Corporate Sponsors.  
Sponsorships are a great way to  
not only support RC but also  
promote and support our Royal  
Lion community!

For more information, please  
contact our [advancement office](#).

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