



November 22, 2022

Dear Hope Lutheran Community,

I'm so grateful for the ways our teachers, staff, families, and community worked together this year to ensure that our students once again received the best Christian education in our region.

We recently received a wonderful note from a Hope family this month which impart said:

"Our kids embraced the spiritual aspects of the education they received at Hope. Hope taught them the value of character and integrity, and brought them a sense of safety and belonging during all the tumultuous developmental stages they experienced as they grew."

There are many things that make Hope special, but our "secret sauce" is our teachers.

Over the past 2 ½ years, our teachers served in extraordinary ways:

- Throughout the pandemic, they showed up every day—exhausted, scared, and courageous—to provide in-person education for our students
- Despite significant increases in the cost of living in Seattle, and steep inflation, our teachers remained in Seattle to teach at Hope
- Our teachers' commitment to in-person learning resulted in outstanding Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) standardized test scores for Hope students—in fact, Hope students ranked near the top for K-8 schools in Washington.

I'm so proud of our teachers, which is why I'm inviting you to join me in making a generous year-end gift to the Eagle Excellence Fund. This fund has 5 key pillars, one of which is to attract, train, and retain the best Christian educators in our region. **We aim to raise \$60,000 between now and December 31 to invest in teacher compensation to ensure our amazing educators remain at Hope and continue to build strong connections with our students.**

Thank you for making your best gift to the Eagle Excellence Fund in support of our educators by December 31st.

With Gratitude,
Kristen Okabayashi, Principal

P.S. It's easy to give online at <https://HLS.HopeSeattle.org> (click the 'Give' icon) or by using the enclosed envelope. Thank you for supporting our teachers at Hope Lutheran School.

