

Dear John Rex Families,

We hope you and your family had a restful and joyful winter break. We are excited to welcome students back tomorrow for the first day of the second semester and look forward to a strong start as we continue growing, learning, and building together in 2026.

Our team is ready to greet students with the care, energy, and structure that make John Rex such a special place. As we begin this next chapter of the school year, we remain focused on what matters most: high-quality instruction, strong school culture, and the growth and success of every John Rex student.

## **A Note of Transparency and Stewardship**

At John Rex, we believe in being thoughtful stewards of our mission and transparent partners with our families. As part of responsible leadership and long-term planning, we periodically explore opportunities that could strengthen our schools and better serve students.

Recently, John Rex engaged in exploratory conversations about a potential strategic partnership with Western Gateway Elementary School. These conversations were preliminary in nature and part of due diligence that always centers on our mission.

After careful review, consultation with several members of our Board of Directors, and consideration of our strategic plan and long-term priorities, we decided not to move forward with a partnership.

We want to reassure families that this decision does not impact our community or our daily operations. Our focus remains on delivering a high-quality educational experience, rooted in our mission and the unique opportunities our downtown setting offers.

We are sharing this update in the spirit of transparency and trust. Exploring opportunities and sometimes deciding not to pursue them is an important part of ensuring that every decision we make puts students first.

## **Looking Ahead**

We are grateful for your partnership and trust, and we are energized for the progress ahead in this second semester. Thank you for being an essential part of what makes John Rex such a thriving, joyful, and purposeful learning community.

We'll see everyone tomorrow!