Welcome Back! New year, new faces

Welcome back! We’re so excited to kick-off a new school year that promises to be one of the most exciting yet! It’s hard to top a total eclipse and the opening of the Lower School, both of which occurred last year, but this year has also started off with enthusiasm. Construction is well underway on campus for the new Community Dining Hall slated to open in the spring, and with so many new faces and exciting plans for fall activities on campus, the energy is palpable.

As we launch the Annual Fund Campaign today, we’d like to take the opportunity to introduce you to the newest member of the Advancement Office team. On August 13, Meghan Wells joined Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School as the Director of Annual Giving. Wells, a native of Rabun County, briefly worked in Atlanta as a business law attorney after attending the University of Georgia and the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens, Georgia. With the birth of their daughter Adalyn, Meghan and her husband, Tyler, decided to leave the hustle and bustle of the city to return home to these beautiful mountains to raise their growing family.

“I really wanted a job where I could find inspiration through my work and see a tangible impact from my efforts,” says Wells. “As the eldest child of a large family, my heart was called to help children and I am so impressed with the caliber of the faculty and students, the quality of the facilities, and the rigor of the academics at Rabun Gap.”
“Two things that stand out to me the most are the faculty’s commitment to students and the accessibility of the School, with over 75% of students receiving financial aid. I’m so excited for the opportunity to take the annual fund to the next level in order to continue advancing the opportunities Rabun Gap can offer its students.”

Rabun Gap’s annual fund, known as the Fund for Excellence, is a vital fundraising effort each year that enables Rabun Gap to offer its students a depth and breadth of educational experiences that would not be possible with tuition alone. Rabun Gap is proud that 100% of its Middle School and Lower School families contributed to the Fund for Excellence last year. We are also honored by a large number of Rabun Gap friends and alumni who invest each year to ensure the Rabun Gap mission. We hope we can count on you to contribute too!

Donate to the Fund for Excellence
Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School welcomed nearly 600 students of all ages back to campus Wednesday, marking the start of the School’s 116th academic year.

This year, Rabun Gap boasts its most diverse student body in school history. The School expanded its enrollment to include international students in the Upper and Middle Schools from 49 different countries, including two new countries this year — Barbados and Belgium. These students join a strong domestic boarding population that comes from 15 states.

In addition to its boarding population, Rabun Gap serves local students from Rabun, Habersham, Towns, White, and Stephens counties in Georgia, Oconee County in South Carolina, and Macon, Jackson, and Clay counties in North Carolina.

The student body also reflects Rabun Gap’s mission to provide access to quality education regardless of a family’s ability to pay, with 78 percent of students receiving financial aid and scholarships.

“Rabun Gap continues to be blessed with tremendous growth and success as one of the nation’s top independent schools,” said Head of School Dr. Anthony Sgro. “I am looking forward to another great academic year. We have some of our most talented academic, athletic, and artistic students on campus this year. We also have an exciting development to celebrate — the spring opening of our new Community Dining Hall.”

Click here see photos from the First Day of School.

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The Advancement Office would like to say “Thank you!” to the Lower School faculty, who have already reached 100% annual fund participation for this school year! As part of that thank you, yesterday they were treated to doughnuts from the Farmhouse Clayton. Yum!

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Head of School Search updates posted online

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1?ik=0f32f1835f&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1610685848739762836&simp=ms-g-f%3A1610685848739762836
Check our website at www.rabungap.org/headofschool to see the latest updates in the search for Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School's next Head of School including the Head of School position description and more information about the search committee.

An update on Georgia GOAL

The GOAL 2019 Campaign is underway and current pledges have us 43% of the way to our target of $400,000 in tax credit scholarships. Please join in this remarkable opportunity to do more for Rabun Gap students! Georgia tax payers should have received a GOAL brochure in the mail recently. If you did not receive one, or if you have specific questions, please contact Eric Vogelbacher, evogelbacher@rabungap.org or (706)746-7721.

Save the date for Grandparents Day! Grandparents and special relatives will have a chance to shadow their student and learn about Rabun Gap! Middle School Grandparents Day is Wednesday, September 26. The Lower School will host grandparents on Thursday, September 27-Friday, September 28. Upper School Grandparents Day will also be Friday, September 28. To learn more, www.rabungap.org/grandparents.
Join us for Fall Homecoming!

Mark your calendars for October 20, 2018! We invite all current students and families, alumni, and former faculty to join in the Fall Homecoming festivities. Visit www.rabungap.org/homecoming for the latest information.

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### Upcoming Events

Click here to view the full calendar

- Middle School Grandparents Day - 9/26
- Lower School Grandparents Day - 9/27-9/28
- Upper School Grandparents Day - 9/28
- Fall Homecoming - 10/20

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### From the Archives...
Check out this photo of students dining in the Addie Corn Ritchie Dining Hall from the mid 1970s! The dining hall has been full of energy as students returned to campus this year!

The Addie Corn Ritchie Dining Hall will be repurposed into a student center once construction of the new Community Dining Hall is completed. This special building, with beautiful architecture and memorable wood panels, will continue to serve future generations of Rabun Gap students.

For any questions regarding our archives, please contact David Grist '67 at dgrist@rabungap.org
Leave a Legacy

Did you know the easiest way to leave a legacy for future students at Rabun Gap is to list the School as a partial beneficiary of your IRA? This simple and thoughtful provision does not require an attorney or CPA and it enables you to transform the lives of countless students.

For more information visit rabungap.planningyourlegacy.org or contact Claire Foggin at cfoggin@rabungap.org

If you have questions about supporting Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, please visit:

rabungap.org/giving