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August 9, 2018

Dear Gaston Christian parents,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! In just one week we will open the doors to our wonderful students and observe the excitement they will show as they enter a new chapter of life.

For some, Gaston Christian is a new school in a new community, due to a relocation. Please join me in praying for these families that they will feel the love of Christ from their teachers and classmates.

For others, it is a new school in the same area. These families have made the decision to transfer to Gaston Christian School; this change likewise is a big adjustment. Please remember them in prayer as well.

For many, Gaston Christian School has been the only school they have known. They have lifelong friends, they refer to GCS as "my school" and they always use "we" when talking about Gaston Christian to friends and family. Our prayer is that whatever stage of relationship your family may have with the school that you will feel the love of Christ from your teachers and administrators.

Our theme verse for the 2018-2019 year is taken from I John 4:11: "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." May God's love permeate all that we do at Gaston Christian School.

As you can imagine, we are very excited about our new building on campus. The M.O. Owens Jr. Worship and Fine Arts Center is named in honor of our founder, Dr. Owens. We are thankful to God that Dr. Owens, who will be turning 105 in just a few weeks, had the vision for Gaston Christian School in 1979. However, I regret to inform you that we will not have the building completed by the first day of school. While we are very close to completion, there are still several things that must be finished before we can use the building. Furthermore, I ask for your forbearance as we want to wait until the building is complete before we make the permanent repairs to our road.

As of today, the contractors are installing the bathroom partitions; setting bathroom fixtures; running wires for the auditorium audio, visual and lighting systems; preparing the columns to be painted; planning the landscaping work; completing the electrical wiring and a myriad of other activities. In the next several days they will place ceiling tiles in classrooms and hallways, begin to install flooring, finish painting, and install the wood flooring in the dance studio.

Psalm 127 says, "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." Please pray that God would continue to build Gaston Christian School for His honor and glory, that God would use the school to transform lives for Him, that parents, students, teachers and friends of the school will be blessed by being here.

Soli Deo Gloria!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marc Stout".

**Dr. Marc Stout
Head of School**