

The summer has come and gone and another school year has begun. Traveling from campus to campus on the first day of school was quite a treat. There are few things better than the “buzz” of students and parents on that first day. I never tire of watching seniors strut on to campus, suave and confident, with an air of sophistication, helping the wide-eyed and obviously nervous freshmen make sense of their new surroundings. Kindergarteners clinging to parents, or more honestly parents clinging to their kindergarteners, and students of all ages reconnecting with one another after a summer apart – the start of school is simply invigorating.

It is our privilege to work in tandem with you, providing an education that stimulates the mind and spirit, bringing a universal, Christian perspective in and through all courses of study, and in all relationships developed and grown through Bellevue Christian School.

Welcome to another school year at BCS! We are delighted to observe, and participate in, God’s transformative work in the life of each student.

Let’s Soar!
Isaiah 40:31

Ron Taylor

PRESCHOOL

Our pre-school has grown to three sites this year, expanding our opportunities to bring the message of the Bible to these wonderful children. Throughout the school year, the pre-school teachers read biblical passages to our preschoolers. Last spring, Mrs. Smit asked students to write ten commandments of good behavior; then she explained the purpose of God’s ten commandments to them.

Now, while God’s ten commandments remain a cornerstone for all followers of the faith, I must confess that this list, created by our preschoolers, is pretty darn good.

The Ten Commandments (offered before they had read the commandments in the Bible)

1. Children listen to your mom and dad
 2. Be good!
 3. No pushing or hitting
 4. Listen to God
 5. Never run away from God - you can't!
 6. Play nice together
 7. Help each other when you are hurt
 8. Don't push people down the stairs
 9. Don't listen to bad people.
 10. Don't put your finger in the animal's cage, they might bite you.
- Julianne Phillips, Director of Preschools

THREE POINTS

When you move, everything’s new. Whether navigating I-405 or learning to work with our excellent faculty, it’s all starting from scratch. You’ve probably experienced new beginnings too!

At Three Points Elementary, we have several new things in particular: many new students, a new principal, and two new teachers. I am glad to welcome Ms. Kim Schulz as 1st grade teacher and Ms. Silvia Dillon as our art instructor. I am very thankful to all the staff and parents who’ve helped me get off to a good start.

My wife Barbara and I have really enjoyed the opportunity to visit four different churches since arriving in the Seattle area. Recently, we were talking to a friendly couple who had moved here from Huntington Beach, CA. I asked Angie what had brought her here. She replied “The Lord, of course—and our family and a job too!”

I could say the same thing. God certainly has provided jobs, a new home, and so many other blessings for us—and for BCS too. It is reassuring to realize that our Father is in charge of the universe, the solar system, planet earth, King County, and the tiniest details of our lives.

As you begin a new school year with your student(s), you can parent with full confidence and trust in His provision. There will be challenges and joys to come, but either way, we know that our Lord is in control and all things will work for our good and for His glory (Romans 8:28).

We can all remember that the next time we face a new challenge!
Steve Kennedy, Three Points Principal

JUNIOR HIGH

The Junior High has been working hard this summer on some important initiatives. We are excited about the potential these changes have for the overall program for seventh and eighth grade students. The math department in conjunction with elementary teachers worked to move more challenging math units into the upper elementary grades. That means that units that used to be taught in 7th grade move to 6th grade and 8th to 7th. As units move out of the eighth grade, more demanding units will be included at that level. In addition, a comprehensive math computation test will be given four times per year to all JH students. Results will be reported to students and parents. More on math modifications will be included in a detailed report to follow in September.

Writing across the curriculum is important too. To help make sure every student is growing to their potential, a writing assessment will be given twice per year, once in the fall and again in the spring. These assessments will be given in science in the 7th grade and social studies in the 8th grade. English teachers are working with other content area teachers to develop the assessment tools.

The junior high is also instituting a Student Success Team (SST). Time has been given for Mike Olson and Ann Steffen to mentor JH boys and girls respectively. These veteran teachers will team teach the leadership and relationship classes in 7th and 8th grades and will work with students who are having behavior problems.

Each of these initiatives is in keeping with the mission of BCS to prepare young people to live fully for God in a rapidly changing world. Details for each one will be communicated as plans are further developed in the months to come. We’re looking forward to a great year of serving young people and their families in the context of this learning community.

Tim Krell, Praxis and JH Principal

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Learning to think through life...

SAS

The Student Academic Services Department is excited to announce the training of three new therapists; Jaime Sipma, Paulette Hoffman, and Jennifer Burke. They come with a wealth of experience both in and out of the classroom. Jamie and Paulette will continue to teach in the junior high part time. Secondly, we are pleased to invite you to our first parent meeting of the 2006-07 school year. Our keynote speaker will be Jennifer Blair, Ph.D., Clinical Neuropsychologist, discussing the value and interpretation of psychological and academic testing. Please remember that our department is available to help you with academic concerns.

Brenda Fournier, SAS Director

HIGH SCHOOL

We praise God that our high school program is off to a great start for 2006-2007. Our enrollment of 365 puts us at capacity. This number includes 23 new students who will make a positive contribution to BCS: 13 freshmen, 4 sophomores, 5 juniors and 1 senior. We extend to them and their families our warmest welcome to the BCS community. We are also excited to welcome four new faculty members. Earlier we announced **Kristie Murphy** as our new drama director and **Zach Harper** as a new member of our English department. Two other positions were finalized late this summer. **Don Bundy** brings his years of solid experience at Franklin High School to our biology program. **Jessica Nienaber**, (BCS '02) is a graduate of Azusa Pacific University with a degree in Christian Ministry and will serve as our new Senate advisor. We are grateful to have the talents and spiritual commitment of these outstanding people on our staff.

ATHLETICS

The theme for this school year is "Let's Soar" taken from Isaiah 40:31. The Athletic Department has challenged its coaches and athletes to reflect on this verse and what it means to be an athlete - an athlete for Christ.

A new school year brings new beginnings, new opportunities, and the ability to start over in some respects. As I begin a new chapter of my life as the Athletic/Activities Director at Bellevue Christian, I am humbled to be part of a Christian school with such a rich history and tradition as BCS. As we begin anew together, I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible and becoming a member of the BCS family. "Let's Soar" together, getting our strength from our Lord and watch what He will do in and through us throughout this school year.

High school athletics started on August 21, and more than 110 athletes tried out for fall sports. BCS is blessed to have a staff

of coaches that love working with student athletes, and love serving where they feel called. The high school coaches for the fall sports are:

Cross Country

Head Coach - Ed Sloan
Head Coach - Sarah Fox

Boys Soccer

Varsity Head Coach – Ben Connors
JV Head Coach – Jason Martin

Girls Soccer

Varsity Head Coach – Larry Royce
Varsity Assistant – Ann Steffen
JV Head Coach – David Longbrake

Volleyball

Varsity Head Coach – Sonja Bennett
Varsity Assistant – Whitney Anderson
JV Head Coach – Paulette Hoffman

Junior high Cross Country began on September 5th, and on September 7th, Boys Soccer and Girls Volleyball began. Coaches for Jr. High Sports this fall season will be:

Cross Country

Rachel Huey (New this year, please welcome her.)

Boy's Soccer

Allison Einfeld
Paul Adams

Volleyball

Melissa Mehlhorn (New this year, please welcome her.)

At the time of this writing I am still looking for one or two volleyball coaches! If you, or someone you know, might be willing and available please call me at 454-4028 x112.

Finally, please plan to attend the Athletic Parent Night for Jr/Sr High School students on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 in the gym. Coaches for all sports will be introduced, and Mr. Tom Doyle will be speaking on the role of parents and athletics. You do not want to miss this night of learning and introductions. Many fall teams will be having their parent meetings following Tom Doyle's presentation.

Looking forward to a year full of "soaring"!

In Him, Mark DeJonge, Athletic/Activities Director

Our mission is to prepare young people to live fully for God in a rapidly changing world, with the ability to understand, evaluate, and transform their world from the foundation of God's unchanging values.