

Dear Three Points Parents,

September 6, 2011



I hope you and your student(s) enjoyed a tremendous start to the school year! There was a ton of positive energy during our first week, and both teachers and students quickly got down to the important business of learning! Three of our student-leaders led our school with messages the 1st day at the flagpole (see photos). Already several 5th graders have requested a meeting with me about a fundraising idea – a great example of our school theme – **Live to Serve!**

At our first faculty meeting, I asked our teachers what they considered the most important qualities of a great classroom: a teacher with passion, students feel valued, excitement about learning, everyone is making academic progress, and open communication with parents. Similarly, former DC schools Superintendent Michelle Rhee says: **“Teachers are the most important school-based factor for student learning . . .”** We are blessed to have outstanding teachers at BCS!

+Back to School Night (grades 2-6) – Thursday, September 15, starting at 6:30 in the MPR

+Chapel this week: this week Mr. Downs and I shared with students about our mission trips to El Salvador and Uganda, and how we can serve globally and locally. Superintendent Ron Taylor will be speaking this Thursday. (We plan to provide you regular updates, so that you can use the opportunity to talk with your son or daughter about what they are learning there.)

+Thanks for your flexibility and understanding during adjustments in class placements. We are also excited about increased support from Reading Resource teacher Buffy Johnson and Librarian Pam Peterson to those classrooms where they can make the most difference.

+If you have any questions – about curriculum, schedule, bus transportation, extended care, or any other topic about BCS – please feel free to contact me or the Three Points office staff.

+Are you a new BCS parent this year? Join us for one of our New Parent Seminars! Please find a sitter and come spend an evening with Superintendent Ron Taylor, where we’ll learn more about the heart behind why we do what we do at BCS, meet other new families, ask questions, and even have some snacks. Our next New Parent Seminar is on **Tuesday, September 20th, 6:30-8:30pm, in the LRC (library) at the Clyde Hill campus.** To RSVP, or if you haven’t yet received the book Second Sight and a letter with the dates, please email Jaime Heise (jheise@bcsmail.org).

+Closing: During Kindergarten sharing time last Friday, (substitute) Ms. Stengel and Mrs. Roberts were asking students this question: what were their favorite things so far? Each student shared his or her favorite, including: Recess, Legos, Reading, Learning, Circle time, Snack time – and then most surprisingly, “Mr. Kennedy’s hair and face.” In KG, you learn to enjoy the surprises!

Blessings in Christ,

Steve Kennedy

