



Dear BMS Families,

I pray this letter finds you well and enjoying the last part of your summer vacation! As a new school year draws closer, I wanted to share with you some updates and exciting things happening here at BMS. We have been quite busy this summer with numerous projects, maintenance initiatives, and renovations underway with lots of hearts and hands of service involved that I am more than grateful for. We have seen massive overhauls of our kitchen area, cafeteria, main secondary restrooms, and MS/HS library that we are excited to present to our students and staff upon their return next month! Apart from a variety of daily summer tasks and promotional initiatives, I have been focused heavily on the strategic use of relief and state grant funds to meet various safety-related needs across our campus. This includes installation of additional security cameras, several improved doors and locking systems, new outdoor structures, and many other items intended to further support our classrooms and growing programs. As always, our main priority is the faith-based development and wellbeing of our students.

We now have principals at each level of education that we offer here at BMS, with Mrs. Williams continuing as Elementary Principal, Mrs. Geissinger starting as Middle School Principal, and Mr. Farley beginning as High School Principal. In their respective building leader roles, they have already formed what I consider to be an extremely strong administrative leadership team that I can trust and count on daily. They will be representing their unique departments while supporting my efforts and expanding goals as Superintendent, in addition to other growing admin. team responsibilities. It is an honor to have these three teachers serving in this new capacity working for the good of all students, and I encourage you to connect with them as you work with us as partners!

In addition to these unique new roles, we are blessed to have several other new folks join our faculty and staff here at BMS. Rich Yingling has expanded his initial role as a secondary substitute teacher here last year to overseeing the startup of our newly developing vocational programming for students interested in the trades and potential technical careers beyond high school. He will also be teaching classes like Conservation Science this year in addition to other related courses. Rich has a significant background in engineering and has professional qualifications to oversee a vocational program. He has a passion for preparing students for the needs and demands of tomorrow and brings with him years of direct field experience and community partnerships.

We are also blessed to have Dave Kanagy return to BMS as our highly skilled, seasoned, and versatile Maintenance Coordinator – overseeing and monitoring campus grounds projects and building needs each day. Dave will certainly be an asset to our school, students, and teachers in this valuable role that he is quite familiar with. As we work to renew and reorganize our secondary library in honor of the late Miss Brenda Kauffman, our former beloved librarian, we have welcomed Diane Shetler into our BMS family for this very season – to serve as a visionary consultant striving to digitize files, cycle out old books, bring new books in, reorganize and restructure, and help us to soon present a revitalized, more relevant library experience to our students and staff.

I look forward to sharing more exciting updates with you over the coming months and welcoming our students back for the start of a new school year! We are focused on positivity, growth, opportunity, and continuing our mission of sharing God's love and Biblical truths with our students in this unique learning environment!

Humbly Yours In Christ,

Nicholas J. Wilson

Superintendent

Belleville Mennonite School