

Brentwood Christian School

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Dear BCS Grandparents,

School year 2023-24 is off to a great start! Our BCS Bears began the year as the seven-time defending state academic champions for Texas Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS). They also began the year as the holder of the Henderson Cup, which is the trophy awarded by TAPPS for the top overall school in respect to academics, arts, and athletics in Texas. They have accomplished state championships and state runners-up in everything from Academics to Band to Cross Country to Volleyball to Drill Team to Track and Field. In other words, your Bears are incredible!

With all these accomplishments, the one that pleases me the most is the spirit they are developing and working within. Our Bears are learning to lead through serving others. They gathered nearly 6,800 pounds of food for the Round Rock Area Serving Center. They tutor disadvantaged students at McBee Elementary School. They bring joy and fun to students with disabilities at Rosedale school. They have grown fruits and vegetables to give away, taken turns overseeing the cleanliness of our campus, and have hosted disadvantaged and disabled students on our campus and spent time with them as friends. Our students are learning that leadership is found in service and Christ is our example of the greatest servant to live. Our Bears are learning to be imitators of Christ in their ethics of work and decorum and in their priorities of service and love.

On the BCS campus you will hear words like sir and ma'am and thank you. You will see kids holding the door open for each other and boys ushering in the girls ahead of themselves. You will hear manners and see courtesy and it will remind you that even in today's secular and often times crass society, goodness can still abound, and Christ can still be found in the words, deeds, and actions of our youth. You will see students from different backgrounds and ethnicities getting along and loving and respecting each other (the BCS student body is 47% minority). You will see kids coming together to join hands and pray for each other. You will see kids joining in songs of praise in chapel and words of encouragement in the hallways. You have much to be proud of and much to be grateful for in that your grandchild(ren) are in a place where much is demanded and yet much is being received. You are the grandparent of a child whose parents have decided their faith is more important than their grades and their character is of greater importance than their status. The amazing thing is that when these are your goals then a great education and a wonderful social experience are the end result.

The amazing part of our students' accomplishments is that it is all done at half the tuition rate of the schools they compete directly against. BCS is special because we have many families who sacrifice to have their kids on this campus. That sacrifice comes with an appreciation of the opportunity and therefore they focus on their child behaving, learning, working, and being the person they need to be so that they can receive the full benefit of this opportunity. In other words, entitlement is not part of the BCS experience. Appreciation, work, joy, expectations, and a plan to become more and more Christ-like is what your grandchild is experiencing. Your grandchild is blessed and they are blessing others daily.

I truly hope you will consider joining the Grandparents' Auxiliary and consider making Brentwood Christian School a recipient of your giving strategies. BCS turns 19% of its total revenue back to our student body in the form of support and discounts. Our mission is focused completely on "leading students to love God" in an environment that "emphasizes excellence." This environment is possible because our community is made up of people who value Christ in an educational setting where demand for work and the expectation of decency is the standard. This is made possible when people like you recognize this as a true ministry and mission and one worthy of support. I

pray something in this message has lighted upon your heart and encouraged you to support your grandchildren and the school that makes so much possible for them.

At BCS we have a saying, "It is a great day to be a BCS Bear!" We say this often, even though the workload and academics at BCS are difficult. We say this even though for many of our families it is a sacrifice to be at BCS. We say this because every day at BCS our students are pushed to learn and more importantly to think. They are pushed to reason and to form beliefs based on the process of discerning facts from opinions. They are pushed intellectually, emotionally, socially, and even physically. More importantly, they are doing all these things while learning that Christ is the purpose and the center of all. We say that it is a great day to be a BCS Bear because we know that all the work and effort and struggle means that our students have the blessing of perspective coupled with the gift of opportunity all brought forth in the love and divinity of Christ.

It truly is a GREAT day to be a BCS Bear!

Blessings,

Jay Burcham President