

# The Viking Chronicle

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## New Title *by Addison Taylor*

Mr. Adam Hart is BCS's new Interim Junior-Senior High School Principal. An Interim Principal means he is the temporary Principal till the end of the school year. Mr. Hart came to BCS last July, his job was High School Assistant Principal for Student Life, but began the role of Principal just after spring break. His hope is to continue the school's mission "to live faithfully for God in a rapidly changing world" which is especially important in hard times like this. Currently Mr. DeYoung our old principal has moved into the position of chief advancement officer (CAO). Mr. Hart is loving being the Interim Principal and is so happy to serve and help the school he loves.



Mr. Adam Hart

## Celebrating our Seniors *by Wren ter Kuile*

Things are getting kind of crazy nowadays so what are we doing about senior graduation? We will be holding the event outside at the Clyde Hill campus. There will most likely still be social distancing guidelines so there will be most likely be restrictions to who all can come. The students will still get to wear their caps and gowns as usual, students will also still give speeches. This event will be held on August 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm in the senior lot. Since there will most likely be social distance guidelines, there will be sectioned off areas for the families. Since this year is so different, we held a special senior parade on May 27<sup>th</sup> where the seniors drove through the parking lot with teachers and staff showing the way to go. Mr. Olson was outside making kind comments and playing music as students drove around the lot. This year will be so different, but all the seniors deserve it!



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Editor's Note: Due to COVID-19 *The Viking Chronicle* 4.8 includes articles about students and teachers at all levels of Bellevue Christian School as well as how students and families are adapting to life in quarantine.

## 8th Grade Graduation

by Mackenzie Morlock

This year eighth grade graduation will look vastly different from any others. Due to the social distancing guidelines it will be a prerecorded video that everyone will see. Eighth graders all have to prerecord videos of them saying what their highlights are. However, the hardest part is that everyone had to make their deadlines so they can put everything together. Mr. Olson explained that there is, “Certainly no replacement for the real experience, but this class will be unique in BCS history for having their graduation ceremony done in this format.” Mr. Olson is right, it will be a unique and very different experience; however, we need to take all the positives in the situation. This year eighth grade graduation will be different from all the others, but our teachers figured out how to make it work.



May 27 Car Parade

## Surprise Yard Signs for Seniors

by Emily DeJonge

The graduating class of 2020 got a nice surprise on April 18<sup>th</sup>, yard signs were delivered to every senior! The idea of putting out yard signs to recognize the BCS seniors was Ms. Joni Ressler’s. She is the mother of a senior and brought this idea to the school. The school thought it was a great idea and ordered all the signs. The signs had each seniors first name, Psalm 107:2 the class verse, Bellevue Christian School, and said Viking Now – Viking Forever. The idea was put on the table on March 29<sup>th</sup> and the signs were delivered on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The signs were delivered by a group of senior parents to all 99 seniors. One of the parents who delivered the signs was Mrs. Janice Clark, she said “When the parents put out the signs, they rang the doorbell then took a few steps back and waited for a reaction. The reactions were priceless and the seniors were very surprised!” The signs encouraged the seniors by giving them recognition and a lasting memory. These are the type of things that make the Bellevue Christian community stronger during this unfortunate end to the school year.



Senior Yard Signs

## Much More than an Award *by Olivia Lee*

The outbreak of the coronavirus has put our lives on hold. Unfortunately, this means canceling some anticipated events. But there is still hope for some; minds have been at work to find an alternative to these cancelled celebrations. The HS Academic Awards was cancelled due to the coronavirus. Luckily, the wonderful faculty found a way to make this event possible. But what exactly is the Academic Awards? “The HS Academic Awards Night is an opportunity to recognize outstanding achievement academically. Many students earn good grades, but excellence in academics is not all about grades—it’s about demonstrating the qualities of a scholar,” Ms. Postma, who is involved in planning the event, explained. The HS Academic Awards are set to take place on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Ramquist oversees setting up a virtual ceremony which will involve the contributions of various teachers and administrators. Ms. Postma said, “We learn to find

interest in subjects we’ve previously thought we disliked, dig deeper into subjects we enjoy, and learn to appreciate trying new things. School is a lot of hard work and though grades are something, we don’t ultimately learn to earn grades but to do our best to bring glory to the Lord. The Academic Awards give us an opportunity to celebrate student’s faithful investment in learning!” There are various awards based on GPA and scores on an AP exam, but the spotlight shines on the Department awards. “These award winners are nominated by the teachers in each department and recognize much more than grades, but specifically curiosity, initiative, effort, and leadership in a class.” Ms. Postma describes, “Each year teachers struggle to select the list of Department Award winners because many students make our classrooms a better place. To be selected for a De-

partment recognition is a great honor.” But this ceremony is not all about winning awards. “Life is not about the awards you earn, and true character is how you behave even when no one is watching and when the grade doesn’t even count. Don’t set your goal to earn an award but do set a goal now to become a curious, hard-working learner who strives to do your best.” Ms. Postma adds. She also has advice for future generations. “...as junior high students, it’s important to start setting a vision for the type of person you want to be by the time you graduate high school. We are in the midst of a tough time of doing school online, and yet so many of you are putting in the time and effort even when it is difficult... turn on your camera...listen respectfully...[and] encourage others to do their best.” Words of wisdom indeed!

## HS Athletic Award Ceremony *by Sofia Benavides*

Sports play an important role in the BCS community. Every year, BCS holds a ceremony to celebrate and give out awards to individuals, and sports teams that placed or made it to state! This year due to COVID - 19, the athletic office will be sending a PowerPoint with videos via email instead of meeting in person. Mr. DeJonge will be in charge of the awards and everyone can participate.

Senior Joseph Primas, with his parents, receives track & field recognition.



## Spring Dance Video *by Bentley Zylstra*

The HS senate produced a video announcing the spring dance and its theme, but they never got to show it before school moved online. Josh Clark, a senior, was one of the students involved in making this particular video.

Josh said, “The video was originally to announce the spring dance, as well as reveal the theme, which was Jungle. I’m on Senate, which is in charge of planning and announcing these dances, so I always volunteer to help put together the announcement videos. We always brainstorm as a team for video ideas, and then we split up and the video team maps out exactly what we want to be in the video.”

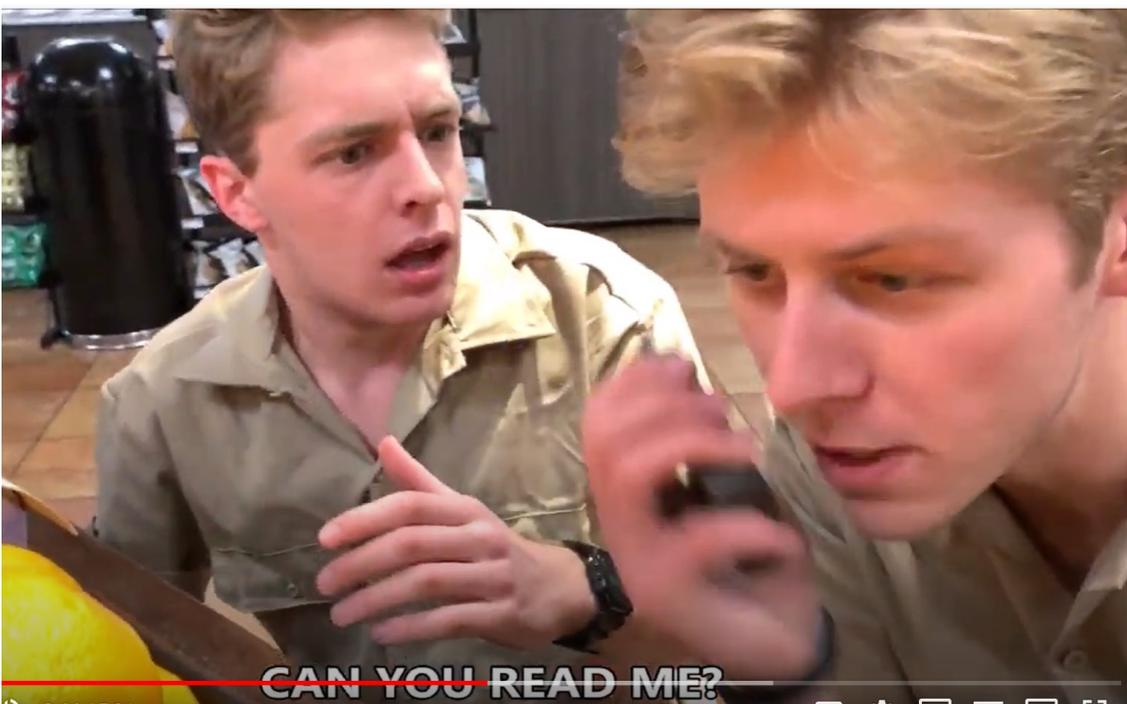
Josh said, that they have so much fun doing the videos he said, “I have a blast making them every time. Making silly videos with my friends is al-

ways going to be fun. We normally show these videos at chapel, but this school year we were introduced to Assemblies, where we had a platform all to ourselves most weeks. We make the videos because it does a good job getting students excited about the dance, instead of just a regular announcement.” They love getting the students excited for things and doing things in a big way.

Josh said that they usually spend a lot of time making the videos. He said, “We usually film over one or two days, and then I edit it on a weekend, plus it takes a bit to plan it out, but I would say from the very start of brainstorming to the finished product, it takes about two weeks. Senate is always in charge of making these videos, EXCEPT for JSB, which the

Junior class is in charge of. Usually we have more than enough people on Senate willing to take part in making the videos. We filmed this video at BCS, but sometimes we film at someone’s house or a park nearby.” All of the people in senate love to help and they never need to talk people in to making them they are always willing to help with whatever.

They love making these videos and they love making something more fun than it usually is, Josh said that it takes a lot of time and effort but it is worth it. Check it out and see the funny video in a time when we all need it to laugh. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nykrUzKKw5E&feature=youtu.be>



Josh Clark & Mitchell Wybenga from the Dance Video

## The Diary of Anne Frank *by Jack Zylstra*

*The Diary of Anne Frank* was written inside of the annex of the house her father worked in during Nazi occupation of Amsterdam during World War II. Anne Frank was a 13-year-old Jewish girl who lived a joyful life, full of friends, family, and happiness. Then the Nazis came. With the arrival of the holocaust, many Jews, like Anne Frank, were forced into hiding, hoping that the Nazis wouldn't find them and they tried to survive the terrible acts committed by the Germans and their allies. For Anne it was like this, except she managed to hide with 7 other people for over 2 years with the unfailing and devoted help from a young woman named Miep who brought them food and supplies. Sadly, they were found. Anne and her sister, along with everyone else who hid with her, were sent to concentration camps and did not survive the war, except her father.

Anne Frank was forced into hiding when the Nazis took over Amsterdam, and likely

wanted something to do, to take her mind off the sad events happening outside. So, she started recording the events that took place in her diary.

Ms. Eble who taught the 8<sup>th</sup> grade a unit about Anne's diary said, "Anne's diary is so important because it gives readers a glimpse into what life was like in hiding. She demonstrates vulnerability, honesty, hope—something that was quite difficult for a teenager during the Holocaust." Although Anne Frank's diary really shows us how terrible the Nazis were, it also shows how God takes the reins and uses it for good.

After WW2, Anne's diary was found by her father in the annex and was published by him.

"He published her diary so that people could see the hope that she had in the midst of hardship," Ms. Eble exclaimed. Anne's diary began growing exponentially after the

war, and today over 30 million copies have been sold and 60 different translations exist around the world! The house which Anne hid in also survived, was restored, and became a place that accepts visitors today! *The Diary of Anne Frank* has become a symbol of hope, justice, and a global icon that shines through trials and tribulations.

8<sup>th</sup> grader Finn Macaulay studied the diary for the English unit and said that, "This was something that made me think about how young people and teens can have a voice, even in the hardest times. *The Diary of Anne Frank* has connections even today, throughout the COVID-19 crisis, making it all the more enjoyable." The Lord is able to use anyone. No matter the age, ability, or personality, God can use anyone and He showed that through Anne Frank's life and how it later impacted far more than 30 million people!

## Kahoot Tournament *by Dylan Imamura*

The JH Kahoot tournament took place over the course of three days, April 22, 24, and 29. Students were able to play in the Kahoot tournament on their computers or phones while at home. Student Council had around 45 people signups for the tournament but surprisingly only 33 actually played. The grand prize for the tournament was a virtual Starbucks gift card. In first place was Jillian Van Hise, second place was Levi

Bengelink, and in third place Samantha Ratterree. For this event to happen three people planned this event, Olivia Lee, Mackenzie Morlock, and Andra Smith. The idea was initially created by the members of Student Council and they started to put together this event. Since this event was never done before electronically, student council had to think on how they could make this event become reality. Planning

the Kahoot tournament took about three to four weeks to arrange, they had to gather students, and create custom Kahoot games but it all was worth it at the end. Student Council has been brainstorming on how they can make online learning just a little more entertaining during the final stretch of the school year. Said Olivia Lee, "Be on the lookout because there will absolutely be more fun events on the way!"

## Teaching Woodshop and Science Online

by Cameron Gesell

Due to the events of the coronavirus we switched to online school in March. Mr. Zschoche, our woodshop and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher, shared about how he is doing in this time of transition. When the event of this switch was first confirmed Mr. Zschoche was “baffled” about how he would switch a completely hands-on class to online learning. Through prayer and research, Mr. Zschoche was able to find a solution of online textbooks and using YouTube to teach and draw his students closer to God. This online learning time comes with many possibilities, but also many restrictions, first let’s talk about what we can do. The good news of this all is that Mr. Zschoche is allowing all students who take woodshop next year to continue all projects, as well as if a student has supervision and permission, they can do projects at home to share with the class. Mr. Zschoche can also show videos for history of logging, milling, and much more. Now the bad parts are that Mr. Zschoche has lost contact and face to face discussions with his students. Although this is the case, Mr. Zschoche has been very innovative and been able to persevere through a lot of things. He has just recently finished his own homemade tennis racket after about 135 prototypes.

Mr. Zschoche believes that in this time he has found that, “being close to my Creator allows me to be creative.” Lastly, Mr. Zschoche has been growing very close to God the Father. He has done this by making many different things with the gifts God has given him as well as giving God all the glory.



Mr. Zschoche with his tennis racket prototype #135

## The JH Yearbook

by Brien Yip

The yearbook is a collection of photos and artwork that the students and faculty create throughout the year. I have interviewed 2 people: Mrs. Fiechtner, our yearbook teacher and Mr. Olson, our JH Principal. The theme for our yearbook is the same as our school theme: Rising Tides Raise all Boats. The people who helped in the making of the yearbook are in the yearbook club after 6<sup>th</sup> period on Tuesday. Mrs. Fiechtner told me that they start with a lot of ideas, like a normal brainstorm, then find one theme that connects them all together. Every single page is thought through carefully on how it will represent the theme. The people in the yearbook club analyzed last year’s yearbook and got some inspiration from that, adding or taking a few things. The editing software they use is Adobe In-Design. While we are all in quarantine, Mrs. Fiechtner has just been finishing up the yearbook by herself. She says it’s “fun to see the whole year come together as a book.” Lastly, Mrs. Fiechtner noted, “While most kids use club time to relax or have fun with their friends, the yearbook club took on the added objective of creating something for the whole school to enjoy. I’m thankful for their willingness to dedicate clubs time to making the yearbook!” The yearbooks will be distributed digitally this year due to the coronavirus and will be sent out in email before school ends.

## **Belonging Documentaries** *by Aidan Morlock*

Mrs. Walker's Video Production class recently worked on an important new project – documentaries about belonging. "I chose this topic because of its importance and focuses on a serious subject," she said. This is a very important topic and a great reminder for all of us. "Belonging is my deep hope for this year... so many, including myself, do not always feel a sense of belonging." This is very true and is a great call to include others and see how important it is to feel like we belong. As we go throughout our day it is important that we have a sense of belonging, it gives us purpose. Mrs. Walker went on to discuss how these can be impactful. "Anyone would want to watch the Belonging Documentaries that were created by students giving their perspective on belonging... Perhaps someone that is lonely, isolated and depressed to have hope and a sense of purpose." I agree, the fact that this topic is something that can impact anyone is great, it shows how important this subject is.

She went on to talk about how it is important, "the students are more aware of what it means to belong; to one another, to our friends and families, to our culture and country, to our world; and how their behavior can affect that sense of belonging for someone else... Many of the students could identify with belonging and not belonging." It is a great reminder and it is something that many can relate to, she was also very proud of the class for working together online. Many of the students could identify with belonging and not belonging so this is a great representation of how our school is rising to the challenge of being online.

I thought this was a great project that made the class look at others from a different point of view, "I hope that they realized the communities that they belong to (or not) and will reach out to those who they see with a need to belong. I hope that they ultimately come to the conclusion that no matter how bad they feel; they are not alone. . Above all, I wish for each of them to know that they **BE-LONG TO GOD!**" This was a great representation of looking at the bigger picture and looking out for others. This project taught the students how to share their thoughts, make a documentary, and most importantly, include others who don't feel like they belong making the community of BCS even better. The videos turned out great and were very interesting to watch. The main idea was that you would film a clip of your thoughts on belonging and put it in a database. You then would compile the clips into a documentary. It was interesting to see all the different ideas and how everyone's turned out differently. Altogether this was a great project that helped the students learn a variety of things.

## **Chip Challenge**

*by Easton Becker*

A few weeks ago Mrs. Fiechtner's Maker Space class had a chip challenge. A chip challenge is similar to the cooking show Iron Chef. Chips were judged on three categories: creativity, taste and presentation. Ms. Steffen, Mr. Olson and Ms. Albright acted as the judges. Many different types of chips were used in the challenge: chocolate, butterscotch, nacho and cinnamon. Mrs. Fiechtner said, "It was a fun activity for the students and for the judges. It was awesome to see the creativity each student employed in completing the challenge." But she thought that the best part was, "It felt like a little slice of life when we were on campus, getting to interact with others." Students and judges got to interact see the all the different work that was done during the challenge. Mrs. Fiechtner plans at least one more challenge before school ends.

## The Rev Cast *by Angus Pulkka*



Follow this link to The [REV cast](#) to check out the Latest and Greatest.

Beginning in the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, “The Rev Cast” is a podcast created for the purpose of discussing school culture and our current times of 2020. As of now there are eleven episodes with several BCS staff going over various topics in each episode. The first episode aired on Microsoft Teams during the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 and the podcast is supposed to run until the end of the school year, however it is possibly coming back in the fall of this year. Each episode is typically 20-25 minutes long and is recorded through Microsoft Teams. There are two final episodes airing this school year, the tenth will feature two BCS seniors discussing their plans and hopes for the future, as well as their reflections on their BSC experience. The eleventh will discuss the gift of learning and summer in our “stay home order”.

The creator of the podcast was asked about his favorite thing about producing the podcast and he responded with “I love hearing the expertise and the passion of the people who join us. It’s lovely just to connect with people, but even more special to hear them talk about the things they care deeply about!”. He also stated he wants to hear from listeners so he can cater to the content they want to hear. When asked what his favorite episode was he said “I’ve really, truly enjoyed all of them—all very special in their own way!!! If I had to pick a favorite, I would pick the episodes with our students. Listening to how they’re navigating this time was a true gift. They were hopeful and flexible and positive and generous. It was beautiful.”

## World Vision 6K for Water *by Levi Bengelink*

The World Vision global 6k for water took place on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The event took place to help give impoverished kids water and an education. Runners received a race bib which had a picture of the child they were sponsoring.

Brielle Weedman and her family partook in this 6k. “Ms. Steffen told my bible class about it and my brother heard about it also, so we signed up.” Obviously because of quarantine Brielle did this with her family and no friends. “We ran at Coulon park in the landing, the run was pretty fun, but we mostly walked and lightly jogged, so it took about an hour.” Brielle enjoys running so this wasn’t a boring thing her parents dragged her along for. “For the 6k we each got assigned a person that we were running for so it felt good to know that I was helping a little girl. Also just knowing that because I was doing this so that she wouldn’t have to.” Knowing this must feel very good and energizing. “I did a 6k like this through BCS a few years ago.”

There were many other students and families around BCS that ran on a virtual BCS team on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to everyone who participated.



Trey & Brielle Weedman Photo: Mrs. Weedman

## Next Year

*by Jack Loveland*

We are all probably curious about next year because this year was not what we expected. We all want to see into the future to see next year. What I say is that we will not have school at school next fall. This is because they’re probably not too sure when is the perfect time to go back to business as usual. On the other hand, I think some people are saying we will have school because we will need to go back to normal school at some point and why not at the start of the school year? If we are in the building I think that in the lunchroom and in class we will have to change seating arrangements to sit every other seat and at the deli we will have those stickers on the floor to tell us where to stand. I am excited to go back to physical school so then there is more structure. When we go back to school in the fall the biggest question is will it be online or in person?



Luke Evenson: new bus driver

## Miss Boone's Retirement *by Emily Cheng*

Miss Kathy Boone

The JH/HS band instructor Miss Kathleen Boone is retiring from BCS. She has been working in BCS for 36 years; since 1984. Her favorite memory as a band teacher in BCS is when she took students on band tours. One in particular was when she took the band and played for the disabled adults who ran a farm in 2018. "The adults were dancing while the Jazz Ensemble Played. This was a group of disabled adults who not only loved Jesus, but celebrated life in His Name. They danced, they showed all of the band kids how the farm worked -- the chickens, the cows, the pigs -- the whole works. I will always remember that as one of my favorite memories from teaching at BCS," said Miss Boone. She said she loves BCS and is going to miss teaching students in BCS.

Miss Boone is feeling tired and a bit sad now. She said, "I truly love teaching kids, and I miss seeing them. I'm also working so much to keep the online music thing alive, so I'm tired. I'm sad that we won't have our year end concerts -- they have always been a highlight at BCS." Her answer to why she works in BCS for so long is God. "God called me to BCS, I never would have chosen a Christian School. BCS was not a typical Christian School. The idea that Christ is the center of all of Creation (Colossians 1) and by studying the entire creation from that perspective we learn more about God. I believed that to be true!"

She now has some plans for after her retirement. She said she is definitely going to keep working on music. She said, "...I don't believe Christians ever are meant to stop "working", we just aren't always called to the same rigor our entire lives. So, for now, my plan is to rest for at least 3-4 months, then teach private lessons and work for a music store helping families pick instruments, accessories and music. That would be part-time for the most part. Play more guitar and percussion at church, join a community orchestra playing the clarinet, get more exercise, play more golf, travel, read." Miss Boone might also try and learn something new. She said she might do stained glass, which she had tried before. She may also learn some more music instruments.

As a band teacher, music is very meaningful in Miss Boone's life. It was important to her since she was a kid. "I grew up on The Beatles and The Monkees. Later I branched out to the guitar and John Denver, Crosby Stills and Nash, Elton John and then Christian Rock -- Phil Keaggy... Now I love orchestral music as much as any of it. But mostly, playing in the worship band at church and worshipping the Creator of it all, whenever or whatever instrument I play, brings me a tremendous amount of joy!"



said Miss Boone. She also said that she loves it when a student comes back to school and thanks her. She could see how God has used her to make an impact in a student's life.

Miss Boone said she would not look back to be a band teacher if she has a second try. It is wonderful how she taught so many students and did so much to the students and BCS. She spread the beauty of God and music to us. Hope she can enjoy her life after the retirement and keep working on what she loves!



## Goodbye to Ms. Postma *by Mrs. Graves*

Ms. Kim Postma, HS Assistant Principal (Academics), will be leaving BCS at the end of the school year. Ms. Postma has been at BCS for 9 years, this time. Her first 2.5-year stint as a teacher here ended in 1996 after the birth of her son, Luke. Fun fact, when she started teaching here the first time, her brother was a senior. Ms. Postma has taught English 7, English 9, English 10, English 12, AP English Literature, Contemporary Issues in Literature, and Bible 11 – Relationships before working in the Administration this year. Ms. Postma is also a BCS alumna and tells this funny story of making the mental transition from student to teacher at BCS, “When I was a BCS JH and HS student, it was engrained in each of us never to cut through the gym. I loathed the idea of getting yelled at by Ms. Bennett. One story that still makes me laugh is that when I became a teacher here again in 2011, even though I was an adult with three sons, a gym key, and a classroom in the D building, I *still* walked around via the Dungeon for 2 years. Old habits die hard.”

Ms. Postma said that some of the teachers that had the biggest impact on her life when she was at BCS were Mr. Larry Anderson, Miss Kathy Boone and Mr. Lowell Hagan. They are just a few among so many amazing teachers she had at BCS. Ms. Postma always wanted to be a teacher and while she was never formally in drama she loves that the classroom allowed her the opportunity to, “act a little crazy and over-dramatic every single day.”

Ms. Postma impacted many students throughout the years and alumnae are still recalling their time in her class. “Everyone was welcome in her class. You could come to her with the craziest, half-baked idea for your Senior Capstone, and she’d sit down and walk you through it,” said Mara Staal ’18. “Ms. Postma made everything fun and interesting! From making rivers on the floor in masking tape to using sandpaper in class for an object lesson, the class was always engaging,” said Alexis Weedman ’19. “She is one of the teachers that inspired me to enter education and will always be a model for what a great teacher can be. Ms. Postma, any school is at a loss without you,” said Annika Staal ’16.

Ms. Postma will be missed by BCS and she will miss her time at BCS too. She reminds us, “to show gratitude, tell people you appreciate them and ask for help when you need it. A lot of life is about doing the little things, and everyone can be a friend to someone who needs one. And if you think you don’t like to read - maybe you just haven’t found the right book yet!”



Ms. Kim Postma

## New Band Teacher

*by Noel Martin*

Miss. Boone will be retiring after the end of the year from her position as the band teacher. The new band teacher is Mr. Kai Hedin. He has had experience at other schools being an assistant director at two different schools. He is very excited to work here at BCS and settle down at this campus.

Mr. Hedin is new to Washington and when he heard about BCS he wanted to teach here. He has learned many instruments like violin, viola, cello, double bass, trumpet, trombone, French horn, flute, alto saxophone, and clarinet. His favorite instruments to play consist of violin, viola, and trumpet. He decided to teach at a private school because he loves God and has a strong relationship with Him, but he also wanted to see how a private school works and wanted to have a variety of experiences at teaching at different types of schools. He wanted to play music so he could connect with God and build his relationship with Him. He started to play because both of his parents were musicians. He is very excited to teach every type of music from jazz to chamber strings. He has been playing music for around 20 years,

Since this is his first-time teaching at a private school, we should show him what its all about and we can do simple things to help him out. We could show him where the classrooms are and tell him the class times and help him when he needs it. He is going to be the new teacher and we should all welcome him with open arms.

## Meet Coach Castillo *by Caden Milbradt-Yoshida*

Mr. David Castillo will be the new football coach for the coming football season. He was born in Seattle. He spent some of his childhood in Eugene, OR and recently moved to Woodway. He started his coaching career at Timberline High School. After Timberline he went to Rainier High School in Rainier for six years, first as the coach in middle school and then the offensive coordinator. He has never won a state title, but he has coached teams that have been in the state playoffs. I asked him what aspect of football you get most excited about and he said, "I get excited about every aspect of football! I just love the game. I don't think any other sport prepares you for the ups and downs of life, adversity, and how to handle success like football does. I enjoy the bond

that is created among the players and coaches as the season progresses." He also believes that the team will be very good this season. Some young players will return from last year as well as some key seniors.

When I asked him how he would describe his leadership style he says he is a big believer in the concept of servant leadership. That means you are willing to put the needs of those you lead first, helping others become leaders. One of his several goals for the football season is winning the league as well as beating their rivals Cascade Christian. He once got into an argument with a player when the player was simply refusing to do what he was told to do. The two of them talked about it afterwards and now the young man and his brother are like family to

Coach. His way of developing a game plan is like this, "As an offensive coach, the first thing I do is watch a lot of film to get an idea about what the defense likes to run. I then spend time thinking about how that defense will try to attack our offense. Then, I spend some time looking at tendencies (what does the defense like to do in certain situations). After figuring that all out, I will start putting together a script that has the first ten plays we will run based upon down and distance." He has played football before in high school and was recruited by many good schools and chose Oregon State, but unfortunately, he hurt his knee in his sixth week of his senior year. He didn't play for a little until he played a year at a semi pro team. When he looks back at it, he sees God's hand in all of it.

## Mack Playground Improvements *by Adrian Niculescu*

Bellevue Christian Mack Elementary's playground was improved in 2017, and now in 2020, it is going to be improved once again with things like new backboards and benches in preparation for students coming back this September. It's not a complete overhaul like the previous improvement, but it will just have lots of tiny improvements to make the experience better.

Mrs. Smith, the Mack Principal, says that some of the things that are included in the new playground are: a new backstop to the field so that students can play baseball, softball and kickball better, new backboards for the basketball hoops,

a new clock out on the playground, new benches for parents and students, two new covers for the preschool playground, and more.

Mrs. Smith's thoughts on why the playground needs improvement are, "Sometimes we are adding things to make it better, other times we are having to replace things that have worn out. I don't think there are flaws in the playground, but instead, ways we can make things better." Mrs. Smith also says that the improvements will be complete by the end of June.

The new improvements will not change the size of the playground, merely add more

things inside the current size. The playground will cost \$25,000 to improve, and that is what this year's Jogathon raised money for. Jogathon is an event at the Three Points and Mack schools to raise money for specific things by having the kids run around the field for an hour, grade by grade, and they raise more money the more laps they run around the field.

Mrs. Smith is very thankful to all the supportive parents who helped Mack raise this money to make this playground improvement happen. Now just hope that quarantine is lifted before next school year!

## Everything about Spotlight on Speech *by Jiho Sohn*

Students in junior high school have many good memories in the elementary school where they graduated. If someone asks what's the best memory in elementary school, students have many answers. Some students will say their favorite was Spotlight on Speech. Spotlight on Speech is the event of speaking about God's greatness. 1st to 5th graders present a poem or a piece of scripture from the prepared list, and 6th graders write essays about issues chosen and present the speech. The administrator of the Spotlight on Speech at Mack Elementary, Mrs. Jenny Cobbley accepted an interview explaining more about Spotlight on Speech.

The purpose of hosting Spotlight on Speech is to "celebrate God's gift of oral lan-

guage that can be used to communicate love of God and our neighbor and to contribute positively to the culture of our world." Also, during the Spotlight on Speech, students memorize scriptures, poems, or their essays to present to audience. Mrs. Cobbley said, "It takes a long time to prepare their speeches. It also provides students an opportunity to demonstrate a growing facility in oral language such as speaking with poise, confidence, and expression." Mrs. Cobbley said, judges grade students' rubric including facial expression, body language, poise, articulation, infection, and flow of words. Joining Spotlight on Speech makes that student a better public speaker than before.

The most important thing in Spotlight on Speech is, "all students understand that

God delights in their gift of speech, no matter what that level is." And that's why students think of interesting topics for their essays. Some topics that were fun in this year, in Mrs. Cobbley's opinion, were 'ranging from the dangers of caffeine to the importance of professional basketball players going to college' and 'detriments of online education'. Mrs. Cobbley said, "One of my favorite parts of the event is listening to the 6th graders persuade others about their views." Spotlight on Speech this year was to be the third week in April, but it couldn't take place in its usual way due to COVID-19. Students sent videos of their presentations to judges this year. Spotlight on Speech has been a long tradition at BCS, and it will be continuing for years to come.

## How to Build a Home Field Day *by Jane Sigl*

There will be no field day at the end of the school year this year because of COVID-19. Although, you can build your own field day at home. If you want to build your own field day at home, it is very important to be safe. One of the most important things you can do to be safe is to do it outside. It is not safe to do this inside. Your home field day will need to be proportionate to your space. Some things you can use to make your home field day are sports supplies. You can easily make games with balls and hoops. One game you can play is as simple as toss the ball in the hoop, and the farther the hoop is the more

points you get. You can have your parents hold the hoop for more of a challenge. You can have your parent time you at a cup stacking challenge. If you have sprinklers in your backyard, you can run through them, have your parents ask you a riddle and then run back out. If you have a pool you can have your parents put 5 non-float balls in the bottom and you will have one minute to get them all. There are so many other games you can make at home.

Although you can make your own home field day there will still be some differences. We can not do the exact same games as we usually do, and we

also can not play with our friends. One of the most fun parts about field day is playing with your friends, but sadly we can't have our friends with us this year. You can encourage your family to help you with your home field day. Most of us don't have as big of a space as the field but that is ok. Your home field day will probably be different, but that doesn't mean it's not going to be fun. The most important part of field day is to be creative and have fun. You can create your own games too. One of the best parts about home field day is you get to make up your own activities. You have the chance to be creative with this and try new things. This is something new that we have never been able to do before and I bet you will find it very fun.

## Love and Joy Delivered from a Distance *by Erik Pulkka*

The teachers at Mack Elementary teamed up to deliver some surprise Easter joy to students and families this April. In the interview with Mrs. Jenney Cobbley I asked her about who organized the whole video and she responded with “For the video, Mrs. Smith, our principal, was talking to me one day right when distance learning started about doing a fun project like a video. The Three Points campus had done a few videos for their students and we wanted to do one too. Because the Speech Team at Mack has done a few videos this year, she asked me if I had any ideas. Mrs. Kristin LeClair, our kindergarten teacher, was also floating the idea of a fun video project as well. So together, we kind of came up with this idea and did a general email looking for participants.”

After that she went into the Easter card. “The Easter Card was a very similar process. Kristin had a teacher friend who did a similar project, so we decided to do one too. The email went out asking for teachers and staff who wanted to be involved. It was so fun that so many people were interested in participating.” After that we talked about where she filmed it and she said that “For the video filming, each person who was involved filmed from their own shelter-in-place spot because health and safety was our number one priority. Once all of the individual videos were done, each participant sent his or her video to me and I edited them together in iMovie. The Easter Card was put together in Adobe Photoshop.”

Then we went onto the topic about when they filmed and they filmed during “The project was done very soon after distance learning started, maybe the end of that first week.” Next she talked about how long it took to make the video and the Easter card. “It actually didn’t take too long to put the video or the card together. The main hurdle was getting all of the pieces from different people, but everyone did a great job filming and sending in their files. If you ask my family, their one complaint is that they had to hear that Shakira song over and over again while I was editing all of the videos together.” Then she went into why they did it. “Why did I sign up to do this project? It was actually really fun for me. It was like I had a connection with all of my co-workers even though I couldn’t see them every day. I also love the idea of a team project that brings people together and showcases their gifts. The fact that our students and families loved it made it that much better. I don’t think people can do too many of these kinds of projects right now. It is so important right now to find joy in the little things.”

After that we talked about who wrote the script. “There wasn’t really a script other than the opening part where my daughter and I kind of im-

proved a person struggling with distance learning, a situation that is now probably all too familiar. The rest of the video was just about asking teachers what they would like to do—did they want to lip sync words or just dance. Thankfully, we had a lot of teachers willing to do different parts.”

Then I asked about where she shared the video and Easter card. “I believe Mrs. Smith put it up on our Mack Elementary One Note under the heading “Encouragement.” A few parents shared with me that their kids watched it over and over and over again.” Then I asked who was the intended audience and she answered with “For both projects, the intended audience was the students and families at Mack. We wanted to do something as a faculty and staff to brighten their time at home while we are quarantined. We just wanted students and families to experience some love and joy from us even though we can’t all be together right now. We wanted them to know we are thinking about them.”

Lastly we talked about what message they were trying to convey. “Because Mack is a Christian school, I was really intentional about making sure to



add a biblical reference in the video. The song isn't a specifically Christian song, but it does speak to the message of the Bible that we do not need to give up because our hope and trust is in the Lord. For the Easter card, it was a little more tricky because the project parameters meant we were limited in word choice. I have always loved the passage we used from Isaiah because it also speaks to how the source of our strength is God, especially in times of struggle, so we used that verse with a short personal message at the end of the card."

### [Mack Video Link](#)

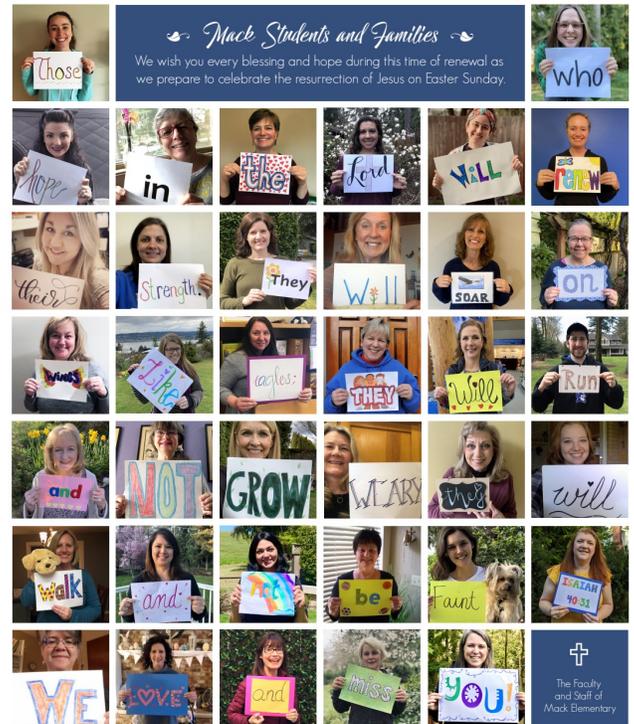
(Log in using your 'bellevuechristian.org' account if prompted)

## Need Some Inspo?

by Katie Metteer

As everyone is stuck in their houses all day, it can be difficult to find things to keep families entertained and inspired. A newly released movie that I would suggest is *I Still Believe*, a movie about life story of Christian music star Jeremy Camp played by KJ Apa and talks about the love story and faith between him and his wife Melissa, played by Britt Robertson. The film takes you through faith, romance, loss, and music to give an outstanding and sad but inspiring story. This movie is rated 98% on Fandango. It is such a powerful reminder that the hope of the Lord can always be found in the midst of the struggles of life. I would highly recommend this movie for all BCS families!

Easter card



## Family Arcade by Blake Kusak

About a week ago, I had an idea to make an arcade with the Kindle Fires and computers we had around the house. Last Sunday, my family set up an arcade made with a Kindle, a Nintendo Switch, and a computer. My brother had his Kindle with Minecraft on it. I had my computer with Super Mario Bros 2019, and my mom, dad and sister had a Nintendo Switch with Mario Kart. I would like to do the arcade again because it was fun and exciting for me. When I asked my mom if she enjoyed the arcade and she said "I thought it was a creative idea, I liked that it was something new that we had not done before, and it was a nice change while in isolation."

I asked my sister what she thought about the arcade and she said, "It was fun because we got to play video games with everybody." We set up the arcade in our television room and put the computer on table and the Nintendo Switch playing on the TV. The Kindle is small enough to not need a table, and just hold it in your hands. If I could do the arcade again, I would have more games out and play arcade music. My sister said that she wanted "more 2+ player games and outdoor games." My mom agreed with my sister and said, "I would have added some non-video games like ping-pong, more variety in the games and being better at Mario Kart." We did not have any outdoor games because arcades do not usually have outdoor games and it was raining.

I think that a homemade arcade is a fun idea and that everyone should try to make one. Right now, everyone has a lot of time and you do not have to have computer games to create an arcade. You could play a bunch of board games and card games or make your own game. This is something you can do over and over and it will still be fun. My mom said that she thought "it was a fun thing to do."

We will all miss Ms. Postma's loving humor, intelligent wit, and Christian heart that she has shared so generously with her students and colleagues over the years!

We will be sad to see Kathy go, she believes in all of her students and has made beautiful music to be poured out as worship to glorify God. Her authentic walk with the Lord was a wonderful witness to all who got to see her heart in her ministry here at BCS.



Ms. Cullen

Kathy—"Thank you for your bold leadership and advocacy for students in the arts. Your passion for worship as a lifestyle shines boldly in your classroom, and is visible in every one of your students. I will take with me your habit of working as worship. You will be missed around here!"



Mr. Tollefson

Kim – I will miss everything you brought to the table including, but not limited to, your laughter, wisdom, Christmas letter story, friendship, kindness, and warmth. BCS has been changed for the better because of you! God bless you in your next steps!!

Kathy – Thank you for always being a kind and friendly person to talk to! Your gifts, talents, and love for students will be missed. BCS has been changed for the better because of you! God bless you in your next steps!!



Ms. Dunn

Mrs. Johnson



Miss Boone,  
Thank you for your gift of worship through music. Thank you for letting us experience all the expressions of life music brings to us. What a gift you have given us, what a gift you have been. You will be missed.

Ms. Steffen



**Kim Postma:** You have made a difference in the lives of students, parents, and employees at Bellevue Christian. I know with my daughter, she will remember you when she's older. You were one of her favorite teachers; education is more than the subjects you teach, but through your behavior and response to students. For myself, you made my transition to the school community of Clyde Hill easier. You were always welcoming and supportive. I wish you much success with your next journey. Thank you.

Ms. Postma,  
"The Joy of the Lord is our strength." Nehemiah 8:10 Any time I think of your heart this is the verse that comes to mind. God has used you to pour his joy over us in such tangible ways. So very grateful for your Jesus heart and how it has touched so many lives, for how it's touched mine.

**Kathy Boone:** It's hard to imagine life after Kathy Boone. You have established high standards for the music program here at Bellevue Christian, and your experience and passion have been obvious. Thank you for all you have done. I hope your next journey will be full of fun, joy, challenges, and family and friends.

I haven't been with BCS all that long but I can truly say that both Kathy and Kim have been a very special part of my journey in my first two years. These two ladies have played such crucial parts in making the school what it is; its wonderful people like these Godly women that leave a lasting impact and permanent legacy behind. I am grateful I got the chance to work with them and cannot wait to see what God has in store for their next adventure.

Mr. Pridmore



Kathy Boone: As parents, Betsy and I truly appreciate all you have done for us as a family. As a staff member, I have enjoyed your friendship, chats and humor. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

Kim Postma: Thank you for your dedication to BCS and especially to Karly. Her time in your class was among her favorite and she has appreciated your counsel.



Ms. Mercier