

July 18, 2022

Dear Briarwood Upper School Parents,

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I pray this has been an incredible summer thus far. My hope is that you continue to enjoy these final weeks of summer break and that you return to campus energized and enthused for a new academic year. As you reflect on these final weeks of July and early August, may you and your families continually turn to our Sovereign Lord and find encouragement in the words of our **theme verse** for the 2022-2023 year; *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:13)*

Below are a few key topics to highlight prior to embarking on the 2022-2023 academic year. Please carefully review this information and the points below:

**Student Schedules:** All Upper School schedules and locker assignments will be on RenWeb on August 4th. Junior High students are welcome to visit the school on Monday, August 8th to locate classrooms and organize lockers.

**1st Day of School:** Our first day of school will be Tuesday, August 9th. All students will begin their first day back to school by reporting to their 1st period class by the 8:00am bell. We will run a block period schedule (periods 1-4) on this day. Students will be expected to be in regular dress code. The HS and JH will also have morning assemblies where we start off the year with a time of opening God's word while also taking a brief look at the year ahead. In addition, we will review general guidelines the following day (Wednesday) that will assist all students in the transition back to a new year.

**Academic Forms:** Please refer to the school website for relevant forms for the upcoming year: <https://www.briarwoodchristianschool.org/academics/forms> This page will contain forms pertaining to master calendars, supply lists, dress code, summer reading, bell schedules, and our JH after school study hall.

**Retreats:** We are excited to participate in our first ever **Junior High Retreat** on August 22nd. This will be a great way to kick off our new year with several fun student activities and a time to bring praise to our Lord in a beautiful setting. More information will be coming soon from our Junior High Principal, Mr. Kerley.

We are excited to host our **Freshman Retreat** on August 29th at the Alabama 4-H Center. More information will be coming soon from our HS Assistant Principal (9-10), Mrs. Wilson.

Finally, I'm looking forward to restarting our tradition of the 3-day, 2-night **Senior Retreat** on August 5-7. While this was communicated a few months ago, please be reminded of this date as we want all seniors to be present for this time of spiritual focus, team building, leadership, whitewater rafting, small group discussion, and class fellowship. More information and final reminders will be coming soon from our HS Assistant Principal (11-12), Mr. Collie.

**Back to School Night:** As you look at the calendar, you will notice that our "Back to School Night" is scheduled for August 16th. Both our Junior High & High School will combine for this beginning of the year celebration. We will gather in the Barbara B. Barker Auditorium at 6:30pm for a brief time together. Once we dismiss from the auditorium, our Junior High and High School will run concurrent class preview sessions. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together, discuss how to best meet your child's needs, and

provide a time for you to hear the heart of your child's teachers along with their classroom expectations.

**The Upper School PTF** (Parent Teacher Fellowship) is excited to continue to serve BOTH the Jr High and the High School teachers and families! Their mission remains unchanged; to glorify God through their support of the teachers, faculty, students and families of the Jr High and High School.

Now more than ever, we need all families to join the Upper School PTF to support this mission and the activities the PTF sponsors and assists with at the Upper Campus. Please visit the website at <https://www.briarwoodchristianschool.org/about/ptf> to support the Upper School PTF with your \$25 Membership. A full list of the committees and the areas of service they provide is listed below the membership form on the website. You can sign up to volunteer in any of these specific areas of service when you join. We need your help!! Many of the committees require very little time, and with many hands, we can serve mightily.

If you have any questions, please contact either Linda Schultz or Marianne Livingston who are serving as co-Presidents this year. They are excited to serve our BCS Upper School this year!!

- Linda Schultz 205-919-8250
- Marianne Livingston 205-960-3749
- [bcsupperschoolptf@gmail.com](mailto:bcsupperschoolptf@gmail.com)

**FACTS Family Portal:** It is vital to update your **2022-23 BCS Forms** and **2022-23 BCS Family Agreements** at the beginning of each school year. The forms and agreements can be found in your FACTS Family Portal. **The FACTS Management system is the only way we have access to reaching you with emergency notifications.** All information is updated within FACTS (formerly RenWeb) - you do not need to contact the school to provide this information. **Students will not be permitted on campus without current information on file.** The district code for Login is BCS-AL.

Instructions on how to change information can be found on our website here:

<https://www.briarwoodchristianschool.org/academics/factsrenweb>

A direct link to updating your Family FACTS can be found here:

<https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx>

We suggest doing this from a **computer vs your phone** as the medical information, emergency contact information, transportation, and custodial information you provide are essential to the well-being of your student's time at Briarwood Christian School.

Thank you for the incredible honor and opportunity to educate and care for your children. We are humbled at this remarkable responsibility and looking forward to a wonderful year!

For God's glory alone,

Landon Gray  
Head of the Upper School