



February 11, 2013

Dear Bethesda Academy Parents,

We had a great turnout for the February Parent/Teacher Conferences and we appreciate all of you who found time in your schedules to come meet with us. We consider ourselves very fortunate at Bethesda Academy, to be small enough to meet with our parents as a group of faculty, instead of meeting individually, and we know that this helps us to get the bigger picture of our students' progress.

As you know, we made some big changes this year in our curriculum and instruction and while we are still going through some "growing pains", we see a remarkable difference in our students' achievement levels. We are even seeing a substantial difference in standardized achievement test results (ASVAB and SAT), so we know that we are on the right path towards getting our students "college ready". There are technicalities and issues to be resolved – helping our students focus more on their work and less on "Youtube", making the Parent Renweb reports more user friendly, and using the best materials that we can find to strengthen our Apex curriculum – but in the overall, we are pleased with the results and with the response that we are getting from students and parents.

Having received such a positive response from our parents during the Parent/Teacher conferences, we find that we are in need of a full day for the faculty to meet and discuss the positive changes that we want to make to our schedule and our programming to help our students make the absolute best of the remainder of our school year. For this reason, we are designating **Tuesday, February 19th as a teacher workday and students will not come to school.** Please note that Monday, February 18th is already a federal holiday and students will not have school.

We want to use the information gathered at the Parent/Teacher conferences to immediately benefit our students. We will use our workday to assess our schedule, determine needed classes for the 2013-2014 school year and plan summer school tutoring/classes that will best assist our students to stay on track and possibly move ahead. We look forward to sharing those results with you.

Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy your long weekend with your sons.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kelly Burke
VP of Operations/Principal