



BELLINGHAM CHRISTIAN
BELIEVE ★ GROW ★ GO

Parent & Student Handbook

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Mission

Serving children of Christian parents, we provide Christian education of high academic quality that promotes authentic Christian character among students who will impact the world for Christ.

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Hours

Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten:	9:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
Kindergarten through Fifth grade:	9:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Middle School:	8:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade:

Arrival 8:30 a.m – 8:50 a.m.

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade students may arrive on campus as early as 8:30 a.m. Students will report to the recess supervisor on the playground (or the gym if the weather is poor) and remain outside the building until 8:50 a.m. Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade classes begin at 9:00 a.m.

Dismissal

Students are dismissed in the pick-up/drop-off areas outside the main building and the gymnasium. Pre-Kindergarten students are dismissed at 11:50 a.m. After 11:55 a.m. students not yet picked up will wait for their ride in the preschool classroom. Kindergarten through Fifth grade students are dismissed at 3:15 p.m.

Middle School (Sixth through Eighth grade):

Arrival

Middle School students may arrive on campus as early as 8:15 a.m. and are permitted to come directly into the building. Middle School classes begin at 8:45 a.m. Students will be marked tardy after attendance is taken at 8:45 a.m..

Dismissal

Students are dismissed at 3:20 p.m. in the area by the main doors.

Parking, Pick Up & Carpooling

Parking Lot Procedures

When picking up or dropping off your child there are two lanes of travel that serve two different purposes. The lane closest to the school is for parents dropping off or picking up their children. The outside lane is reserved for parents driving through or parking and should not be used for drop off and pick up. When stopping to pick up your child, please be sure to pull all the way forward towards the main entrance of the school. This allows other cars to get into the parking lot behind you. If your child's class is not yet out, please circle around or park until your child arrives. K through fifth grade students will be lined up along the school building and near the gym and will be sent to you. Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students are by the front entrance of the school. Cars may not be left unattended in the lanes. Loading zone parking spots are available near the front doors. If you do get out of your car to receive your child, please be sure to stand behind the students so that teachers can see the cars pulling up.

Carpooling

We encourage families to carpool. Use the school directory or ask office staff for contact information of families who live in your area. If someone other than yourself or your usual carpool driver is picking up your child, please inform the office ahead of time.

Constitution and By Laws of Bellingham Christian School

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this Christian School Association is Bellingham Christian School, incorporated.

ARTICLE 2 - BASIS

The basis of this Association is the Word of God. In the light of this Word we in our educational program stand committed to the following truths and regulations:

1. The Bible is the Word of God, Divinely inspired as originally given, and is the supreme authority in life and its preparation.
2. God is Triune - one eternal God existing in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Man is created in His image. Creation and providence are revelatory of Him.
3. Christ is God manifest in the flesh, born of a virgin; He lived a sinless life, suffered and died on our behalf; and he arose bodily from the grave, ascended, and is coming again in power and glory.
4. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely fundamental to Christian life and should be basic in all preparation for life. By God's grace only and through faith alone are we and our children saved from sin and its evil consequences.
5. Parents are responsible for the education of their children. To bring them up in the Lord, they, through the agency of a Board, employ teachers who give evidence of a born again life and who manifest ability to educate children morally and intellectually in the light of God's Word.
6. The pupils (those taught), being images of God, must be subject to His sovereign rule in their lives. Creation and providence (that which is taught), being God-revealing, must be presented as such. Such teaching makes for God-consciousness without which no Christian teaching is possible.
7. Doctrines that divide the denominations that are represented in the pupil body are not to be discussed in school. A pupil raising a question concerning such a doctrine is to be referred to the parents of the pupil or to his (her) pastor.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Active membership of the Association, which entitles one to the privileges of voting and of holding office, shall comprise those who:

- (a) Subscribe in writing to Article 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws, and
- (b) Are 18 years of age or older, and
- (c) Are parents, guardians or grandparents that make payment of tuition for at least one child, or have been parents, guardians or grandparents that have paid tuition in the past for at least one child and make an annual contribution of \$500.00 or more, or are graduates of Bellingham Christian School and make an annual contribution of \$500.00 or more.

Any member found out of harmony with the above membership requirements disqualifies himself from active membership privileges.

Membership period is defined as that period between annual meetings. After an annual meeting: (1) tuition must be paid in accordance with school policy; or (2) the annual contribution must be paid by 4:00 p.m. on the first day of the school year.

Total membership for determining a quorum will be established from the membership roster of those who were qualified to vote at the previous annual Association membership meeting. Membership record

showing name, address, and phone number along with the signed certification to Article 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws will be on permanent record kept by the Board of Directors at the School.

Contributing Membership includes all individuals, irrespective of age, who are interested in and approve of the work of the Association in general, and who make an annual financial contribution to the work of the Association. Contributing Members do not hold office and they do not vote at the meetings of the Association but they may attend these meetings and shall receive without charge annual reports of the Association.

Attendance Policy

Contacting the School About an Absence

Please call the office if your child will not be at school. When a child is absent from school and no notice has been given, the office will make an attempt to contact you as a safety precaution.

Late Arrival

Students who arrive late must report to the office and receive a pass to class.

Extended Absences

Notify the school if you are planning to take your child(ren) out of school for a vacation/trip. Schoolwork must be made up when the student(s) return or can be requested ahead of time. It is the responsibility of the family to contact the teacher before or after class to determine if there are assignments that have been missed due to absences.

Absence Due to Illness

A child who is ill should not be sent to school until he or she is well.

- Students who have been ill at home (vomiting, diarrhea, or running a temperature of 99 degrees or higher) should not come to school until symptoms have ceased for 24 hours.
- Students who become ill at school may ask to go to the office. If they are not able to go back to class, a parent/guardian will be contacted to make arrangements to pick up their child.

Early Pick up:

1. Call the office in advance;
2. Come to the office and sign your child out. An office staff member will go to the class to get your child.

Emergencies

In the event your child becomes ill or suffers an injury, it is critical that the school office has current contact numbers where you can be reached. Please keep the office up to date on your home, work, and cell numbers.

Discipline Guidelines

Behavior Standards for Students

As a Christian school, we aim to be a testimony to the world and also to our fellow Christians. The principals, teachers and staff will work to help students conduct themselves with behavior that is pleasing to our Lord and Savior.

The purpose of discipline is to train a child to accept responsibility for his/her actions and attitudes and have a change of heart towards sinful behavior. The standards of discipline are set forth in Scripture and used consistently throughout the school in order to honor the LORD, build a foundation and give security. Attendance at BCS indicates a willingness on the part of students and their parents to partner with BCS teachers and staff to guide children in Biblical principles.

Maintaining order in the classroom is the responsibility of the classroom teacher. Each teacher shall communicate a discipline plan with standards and consequences appropriate to the grade level.

Certain behaviours may be dealt with by teachers, staff members or volunteers who have observed the infraction. If these behaviours continue to occur or are excessively disruptive the student shall be referred to the Principals. More serious concerns will be referred directly to the Principals.

Restitution, reasoning, loss of privileges, suspension, expulsion and other Biblical methods are the forms of discipline used at our school, all with the goal of helping and encouraging each student and protecting the student body.

Desks and Lockers

The school reserves the right to search desks and lockers at any time should staff members have cause to suspect inappropriate material within.

Immunizations

According to Washington State law, an up to date immunization record must be kept on file for all students. You may file an exemption form with the school if you choose not to vaccinate. Any exempt student will be sent home during an outbreak of a disease for which they are not vaccinated. This stay at home can be three weeks or more in duration and tuition will not be refunded in these cases.

Financial Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Statements are e-mailed on or around the 21st of each month and tuition payments are due the 1st of each month, beginning August 1st. You may request a 10, 11 or 12 month billing period. A non-refundable registration fee is due prior to enrollment.

Payments can be made via cash, check or ACH. Tuition should be either mailed to the school or dropped off in the drop box located outside the office. If you need a cash receipt, please see the secretary.

It is the Board's desire to work with all parents who have outstanding balances. Communication is the key to helping with emergency financial difficulties that a family may have from time to time. No student shall be enrolled for the upcoming school year with a previous year's outstanding balance from BCS or any other school, unless approved by the finance committee.

Collection Procedures:

Past Due	Action
30 days	<p>A 5% late fee shall be assessed to the amount billed unless the administrator has been contacted by the person(s) responsible for the amount and has subsequently set a meeting date where a written payment plan can be drawn up. Final approval of all plans shall be by the Board.</p> <p>Persons responsible for paying accounts 30 days past due who have NOT contacted the school shall be assessed a 5% late fee and mailed a letter by the administrator informing them that their child(ren) shall be withdrawn from the school within 30 calendar days if they fail to contact the school and set up a approved payment plan.</p>
60 days	<p>The administrator shall withdraw any child enrolled in the school if their account is 60 days past due and if payment plan has not been accepted by the administrator and subsequently approved by the board.</p> <p>One week prior to the removal of a child or children from the school, the administrator shall send a certified letter informing the parents or guardians that they have seven calendar days to pay the account in full or their child(ren) shall be removed from school until they do so.</p>

<p>More than 60 days</p>	<p>Any account without an approved payment plan that is past due by 60 days or more shall be turned over to the finance committee for the following actions.</p> <p>Step One:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two phone calls asking for payment plan. A documented record of contact attempts shall be forwarded to the Administrator and shall be added to the students file. 2. If no response to the phone calls, a registered letter with the following content shall be sent. A dated copy of the letter shall be added to the students file. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We tried to reach you b. Please contact us for payment plan c. We want to work this out; could you suggest someone from your church with whom we could meet to settle this matter. d. Please contact us within one week of receipt of this letter. We do not wish to send this to legal collections but that is our next step if we have not heard from you. <p>Payment plans for accounts past due 60 days or more shall be negotiated in writing by the finance committee. A record of the payment plan shall be placed in the schools file. In developing payment plans, encourage families to be realistic.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Proceed to Step Two if any of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. No communication is received within one week b. A payment plan cannot be negotiated c. A payment plan is in place but is not being followed d. People on a payment plan do not return communication <p>Step Two:</p> <p>Send a registered letter telling the family we are initiating collections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If less than \$1500 send to collection agency • If greater than \$1500, and upon agreement by the board, initiate proceeding to small claims court.

School Property

All damages, accidental or not, should be acknowledged by the person involved and a plan for reimbursement should be made. Such damage includes, but is not limited to, marking on desks and other property. We expect that books will endure normal wear and tear. Students will not be assessed a fine unless there is more than normal wear and tear.

Parent / Teacher Communication

An effective parent/school relationship is strengthened when parents and teachers communicate. We strongly encourage parents to attend school functions and conferences and stay in close communication with teachers. Most teachers are easily reachable by email and are willing to meet outside of classroom hours

Parent Participation Hours

To help keep tuition affordable and to encourage parent participation in the school, families are required to spend a certain number of hours each year helping in and around the facility.

Hours Required

Families with full-time students: 30 total hours, 4 of which are to be spent on recess duty.

Families with only a preschool/Pre-K students: 15 total hours, no recess duty required

Single parent families: divide required hours in half

Important considerations:

- Hours that are unfulfilled by the last day of school in June will be billed at \$25 per hour and payment will be due on July 1st.
- Recess hours are calculated separately from other Parent Participation Hours. If a family has more than the total number of required hours but has not fulfilled recess duty requirements or did not show up for their scheduled time, they will be charged for the recess hours.
- One school family may not perform participation hours for another school family. Each family is responsible for their own hours. A family may, however, have a non-school friend or a family member help fulfill hours. Please check with the office for further details.
- Activities **not permissible** as Parent Participation Hours include attendance at Association meetings and attending field trips in a non-official chaperone role.
- Each family is responsible for finding ways to participate in and around the school. There are many tasks to be completed each year; please find a way to be involved that suits you. School and classroom newsletters are a good way to find participation opportunities.

Record Keeping

It is **your responsibility** to record your Parent Participation Hours in Sycamore. If at the end of the school year your hours are not recorded, you will be billed.

Parent Visitation

Parents are welcome and encouraged to visit and volunteer at the school. We do ask, however, that you contact the teacher ahead of time to let him or her know you would like to visit or work in the classroom. Parents may stop by unannounced at any of the scheduled lunch times to have lunch with their child. Every parent (and all school visitors) must sign in at the office upon arrival at the school and wear a badge signifying he or she has checked in through the office. This is a safety protocol that will be strictly enforced.

Personal Property

The student must assume the responsibility for loss or damage to any personal property. Lost and found items not claimed will be consigned. Check the school newsletter for donation dates.

Telephone Calls

Students should only use the phone for important school-related matters. If parents have an important message for their child, they are welcome to call. If parents do not need to immediately talk with their child, we will see that the message is delivered in a timely fashion.

Dress Code

The basis of our dress code can be summarized into four basic principles: cleanliness, appropriateness, safety and modesty. Students in violation of dress code will not be admitted to class until parents have brought appropriate clothing to the school.

Boys may wear shorts that are six inches or less from the knees. Students may not wear clothing that is dirty, has holes, is frayed, and/or is immodestly tight. Sleeveless shirts, hats or hoods in class and objectionable logos are not allowed.

Girls may wear skirts, dresses, and shorts that are six inches or less from the knees. Students may not wear clothing that is dirty, has holes, is frayed, and/or is immodestly tight. Sleeveless or low cut shirts, hats or hoods in class and objectionable logos are not allowed. Note: Girls are encouraged to wear shorts under dresses when playing on the playground and modestly long shirts over leggings.

From time to time there will be special dress up days where the above dress code will not be fully applicable. PE, weather and recess activities require appropriate shoes and clothes, please dress your child accordingly.

Cell Phones & Music/Electronic Devices At School

Students are not allowed to use technology devices at school or during school field trips. During a student's free time we want to encourage face-to-face interaction in building relationships. If a student needs to use the phone, he or she will need to check with his or her teacher and use the office phone. Technological devices should be turned off and either kept in backpacks or lockers. Students will have their technological devices confiscated if they are out at school. Parents will need to come to the school to get their electronic device back. Students who have their device confiscated more than once will be asked to leave it at home.

Dating/Physical Contact

We believe school is a place to learn as well as enjoy other students as friends. Therefore, we do not allow romantic physical contact such as romantic hugs, hand holding, sitting close to one another, etc. We also maintain these standards at our after school events.

Field Trips

From time to time classes will take field trips. Parents will complete a Field Trip Permission Form for every field trip. Teachers will inform you about cost in advance - many of the field trips and any associated fees are listed in the individual teacher's syllabus found on the BCS website.

Field trip transportation is usually provided by teachers or parents.

Designated Parent Chaperones/Drivers:

- For each field trip the teacher will determine the number of chaperones/drivers needed and will designate chaperones. The designated chaperones are responsible for transporting and supervising students and may count the field trip as Parent Participation Hours time.
- Parents drivers must fill out the Parent Chaperone/Driver form and include a copy of a current driver's licence and proof of insurance. It is possible the school may deny a parent the opportunity to drive on a field trip based upon his or her driving record.

Fundraisers

The Bellingham Christian School Foundation is responsible for the major fund raising efforts of the school. The PTF raises money for teacher support and school events.

Programs that Benefit BCS

We participate in a variety of programs that also help to defray school expenses.

SCRIP: Purchasing gift cards (called SCRIP) at BCS for shopping at Fred Meyer, Safeway, Target, and many more stores can earn our school 5% to 10% on the face value of the card and earn a parent a 3% credit to go toward their tuition.

General Mills Box Tops Program: General Mills contributes money to the school every year for each box top certificate we collect. A box is located at the school to drop these off. Get your whole family and friends collecting these for the school. See our PTF president for more details regarding this programs.

Fred Meyer and Amazon have shopping incentive programs that generate cash back for the school.

Lunch

Students are to pack a lunch each day. Microwaves are available in some classrooms

Parent volunteers offer a pizza hot lunch day and bake sale most Wednesdays. Students place their order for pizza on Tuesdays using pre-purchased coupons. Students who forget to place their order in advance should pack a lunch on Wednesday as the number of slices ordered is close to exact. Bake sale items cost \$.25 each.

Milk is available daily and is purchased via a punch card.

Pizza and Milk coupons are available for purchase on Tuesday morning through PTF.

Athletics

The value of athletics lies in the method of developing our bodies and character and of teaching sportsmanship, leadership and commitment. Soccer, basketball and tennis are offered for middle school students.

Weather

If severe weather necessitates closing school or a delayed start, go to the BCS Web Site: www.bellinghamchristianschool.org or Sycamore. Announcements are usually made and posted by 7:00 a.m. and typically earlier. If the school remains open and you assess that you are unable to safely transport your child to school, please choose on the side of caution.

Grades

Report cards are distributed each trimester. See your child's individual teacher syllabus for further grading information. Syllabi are available on the BCS website and Sycamore on individual teacher pages. Teachers review the material from their syllabus on Back to School Night in early September.

93-100	A	73-77	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
88-89	B+	68-69	D+
83-87	B	60-67	D
80-82	B-	Less than 60	F
78-79	C+		

Awards

Academic and Character Awards

HONOR ROLL

Purpose:

To encourage and honor hard work and academic excellence.

Criteria:

93% to 96% honor roll, 97% to 100% high honors

Frequency:

Each trimester

Eligibility:

Any full-time student in the school receiving letter grades.

Character awards and students of the month are given out by teachers.

Office Protocol

The office is a work place for BCS staff and volunteers. Children of volunteers should not be in the office. Please do not use the office as a place to visit with friends.

Committees

There are several committees and boards at BCS that you can be involved in. You may serve on the BCS Board, Foundation or PTF if you have been in the school for three years and are elected by the Association.

You may attend any public meeting and observe or participate in them. School board meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Foundation board meetings are the second Monday of each month at 5:00 PM. PTF meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM.

If you wish to serve as a parent on any of the school board committees listed below please contact the Board president.

- Parent Teacher Fellowship
- Buildings & Grounds
- *Publicity
- *Curriculum
- *Finance
- Athletics
- Others as needed

*You have to be a member of the BCS Association for two years in order to serve on these committees.

Recess Procedures and Rules

Due to weather, there are times when recess will be either in the gym, on the playground or a combination of both. Recess is supervised by a combination of staff and parents.

Parent Volunteer Hours Recess Duty

Parents supervise lunch and morning recess. Recess supervisors may remind students to follow the rules. Students who still do not cooperate will be sent to the office. Any student who fights, swears or is disrespectful may be sent directly to the office.

Medication

No student may have any medication in their possession at school. If your child needs to take medication, including cold medicine, aspirin, or any prescription medication, obtain an Authorization for Administration of Oral Medication at School form from the office. The child's physician must fill it out and you must sign it. Other details about providing medication are on the form. ALL medication must be kept locked in the office. Parents may come to the school and dispense medication to their child without the above mentioned form.

Promotion & Retention

A student must receive a grade of "D" or better or an academic plan in place to be promoted to the next grade level. Parents of any student considered to be at risk for retention will be contacted by the classroom teacher to suggest appropriate intervention and support.

Graduation

Eighth grade students must attain a "D" grade level or better in each subject in order to graduate and take part in graduation ceremonies.

Library

Students may check books out on their scheduled library day. A non-refundable fine will be charged for all overdue and lost books. If the book is not returned within three months, the total cost of the replacement book will be assessed. Library privileges shall cease if a book is not returned within one month.

Safety

At BCS we take safety very seriously. Emergency preparedness plans are in place including, lock down, fire and earthquake procedures. Drills are performed on a regular basis. First aid and safety equipment is provided for each classroom. All doors remain locked at all times. Video surveillance is in place as well as fencing along the property lines. All visitors to campus must check into the office and wear a visitor badge.

School Parties

There are four official parties for the year: Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Last Day of School. Birthday treats may be shared with your son or daughter's class during lunch hour or a time arranged by you and the teacher.

Planners

Students in fourth through eighth grade are provided BCS planners. If your son or daughter loses his or her planner, please contact the school office for a new one. The student will be charged a replacement cost.

Communication Policy

The purpose of these principles is to inform those at Bellingham Christian School of the proper procedures for handling concerns, problems and grievances. At Bellingham Christian School we have a desire to resolve any and all problems in an orderly and Christ-like manner. This will keep the body of Christ functioning properly according to God's will.

Pray for a Christ-like attitude in handling the concern, with reconciliation and restoration being the goals. Make sure the facts are correct before consulting anyone regarding the issue.

The general guideline is to always try and work out issues one on one with the person(s) associated with the issue. Approaching the person(s) in a Christ-like manner will almost always result in settling an issue. Issues should be dealt with immediately before facts can be distorted. This increases the accuracy of the information and also increases the likelihood of making productive changes that will benefit the relationships involved and the school.

General Steps That Should be Followed

- Level One: Set a meeting to express the issue with the person with whom the concern is regarding.
- Level Two: You, along with the person with whom the concern is regarding, meet with a third party. (All parties should be aware of this meeting and have an opportunity to attend.)
- Level Three: You, along with the person with whom the concern is regarding (and possibly the level two third party), go to the Executive Committee of the Board. (All parties should be aware of this meeting and have an opportunity to attend.)

Board members and Staff members who are approached by individuals with concerns are to steer each individual directly to the people involved in the concern.

Exceptions: On very rare occasions, if ever, you may feel your safety is in jeopardy should you follow the above procedures. If this is the case, you need to immediately go to the administrator or Board President to share your concerns.

Pets

Animals are not to be in the student area during pick up time.

Any animal brought to the class must be clean. Reptiles and birds may not be petted.

Teachers will check with office personnel about student allergies before allowing a pet in the classroom. If the animal causes an allergic reaction to any student, the pet will be removed.

Acceptance Policy

Parents are encouraged to take a tour of the school and have their questions answered one on one with the enrollment coordinator. Once an application is received the child's name will be put on the class list to hold a spot until acceptance is official. An interview and academic assessment will be scheduled to complete the enrollment process. At least one parent or guardian must and sign the school's *Statement of Belief/Membership* form. The child must qualify academically and behaviorally. Parents must read and agree to abide by the rules and procedures found within this parent/student handbook. A non refundable registration fee will be due at the time of acceptance.

Sexual Purity Standard

Bellingham Christian School retains the right to refuse enrollment or withdraw students should the parent or student engage in sexual immorality, including any who practice, promote and/or condone sexual relationships outside of a Biblical marriage including but not limited to homosexuality, bisexuality or transgender behavior. A Biblical marriage is defined as one man and one woman coming together in a legal ceremony to commit to one another in the eyes of God and man. (Romans 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Hebrews 13:4)

Annual Events at Bellingham Christian School

This is a list of many of the events that take place during the school year at Bellingham Christian School. Most of these take place annually while some are offered occasionally. Each of these will be listed in the BCS Matters newsletter prior to the event.

Fall

Welcome Back to School Picnic – All new and returning school families and staff fellowship at a picnic at the end of the summer before another school year begins. Directly following is the New Parent Orientation.

New Parent Orientation – This event is scheduled right after the Welcome Back to School Picnic (see above). This informative meeting is for all new families to get acquainted with the mission and policies of BCS.

Registration Day – This event is held during the Back to School Picnic. It is a time for parents to complete or update paperwork required for their student to attend school; to buy milk and pizza tickets and to sign up for recess duty and other participation areas.

Back to School Night — This is an important night for at least one parent in each family to attend in mid September You will have an opportunity to hear from your child's teacher regarding what is in store for your child during the year. Teachers will inform you of the curriculum, classroom procedures and more. Children who are able to sit quietly may join parents; however, it is not designed as a student event.

Fun Run – This is PTF's (Parent Teacher Fellowship) major fundraiser for the year. All students and staff participate and obtain sponsors for completing as many laps as possible in one hour. The money raised is for special events and teacher support. Pledge envelopes go home with students several weeks in advance of the run.

Fundraising Luncheon – The Fundraising Luncheon involves a presentation by staff and students, culminating in a request for guests to consider pledging financial support to the school. All pledges go towards general operating expenses. Parents are encouraged to host a table of friends and family members at the luncheon.

Veterans' Day Assembly – We invite as many veterans in our area that we are aware of and they are honored at this heart-felt, patriotic event. You are welcome to come and invite veterans who you know.

Parent Teacher Conferences – In October and March, parents are invited to review their child's progress with the teacher. On conference days, the students are dismissed at noon to allow for meetings in the afternoon and early evening hours.

Winter

Book Fair – Parents and students may purchase books and other items during this week-long event sponsored by our BCS Library. A portion of the proceeds is credited to the school for the purchase of more quality books for our library.

Christmas Sing-A-Long – This is a time for parents, students and staff to sing praises to the Lord for the Christmas Season. It is held during the school day just before Christmas break. It is beautiful to hear all the voices combined in thanking Jesus for coming to the earth.

Skate Night – All school families and staff are invited to attend an evening of roller skating. Even if you don't skate, it is fun to attend and just watch!

Spring

Annual Association Meeting —Scheduled for the fourth Thursday in April, this is a must-attend event. This is the annual business meeting for your school. You will hear about the vision and progress being made, you will elect new BCS and PTF board members and you will approve an annual budget. It is absolutely crucial for at least one parent to attend. Without a quorum, we are unable to elect a new board and approve a budget. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

Staff Appreciation Week – Our entire staff is honored during this week by PTF, parents, and students. Lunches are prepared and set up for all staff each day Monday through Thursday. On Friday, the entire staff is treated to lunch at a local restaurant (while parents volunteer in the individual classrooms and the office). The highlight of the day is when all the students line both sides of the hallway to welcome the staff back after lunch by shouting and clapping (BCS staff rocks!). What a thrill to know that the work we do for God is so appreciated!

Field Day — On an afternoon during the last week of school we celebrate the end of the year with an all-school field day. Students spend the afternoon going from fifteen to twenty stations such as face-painting, softball throw, balloon toss and more. Our eighth grade always comes back on this day to help run the stations and we end the day with a fun prank on the eighth grade.

End of Year Picnic – This is a great send off into our summer season. All families and staff are invited to participate in this end-of-the-year extravaganza!

Ongoing

Worship and Assemblies – At the end of each trimester, we will have Worship and Recognition Assembly. At this assembly we will acknowledge God at work at BCS. There will be a time of praise and worship and then we recognize students of the month and students receiving honors and high honors academically.

Moms in Prayer – Throughout the year, parents meet weekly to pray for the needs of students, teachers, staff and the school at large. Watch for information about meeting times and location in the school newsletter.

Middle School Retreats — Three times a year, sixth, seventh and eighth graders attend retreats. The purposes of the retreats are four-fold: to encourage spiritual leadership, to encourage positive cross-grade level interaction, to develop positive relationship between staff and students and to serve the local community.

School Spirit Days —These are the last Friday of every month. We encourage everyone—staff, students and parents—to show their school pride by participating in the monthly theme.