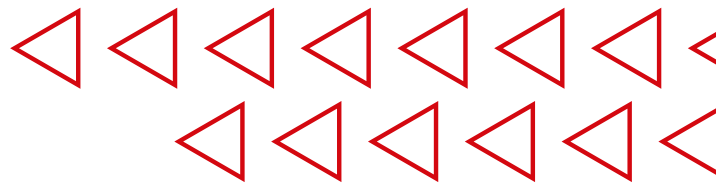


The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Psalm 121:5-8



# THE SOCIAL HERD



## OUR MISSION

Bay Area Christian School exists to provide quality, Kingdom education to the next generation, empowering them to make disciples of Jesus at home, in society, and through the church.







**Your Admin Team**

Les Rainey - Head of School  
Vicki Fletcher - Assistant to Head of School  
Denys Watson - Admissions Director  
Deena Heidemann - Activities Director

## A message from our Head of School, **LES RAINEY**

Welcome back to school! We are delighted to see nearly 1000 students return to campus. As a ministry of Bay Area Church, we are pleased to partner with families to equip the next generation to serve Christ. This is a team effort, and we are excited to stand with you as parents for your child's growth and success.

You may have already noticed that we've refreshed our mission statement over the summer. The new mission statement states "Bay Area Christian School exists to provide quality, Kingdom education to the next generation, empowering them to make disciples of Jesus at home, in society, and through the church." While we've always strived for this on campus, we are really

excited to clearly express this through our new mission statement.

Finally, there is a monthly theme set for each newsletter this school year. In the month of August the focus is on "Expedite." This discipline involves intentionally simplifying and accelerating tasks, decisions, or actions to create space for deeper spiritual focus, particularly in the pursuit of becoming disciples of Christ. By clearing away worldly distractions, this practice helps us live more fully in alignment with our commitment to follow Christ. The prayer is that this focus will create mindfulness and efficiency, allowing for greater devotion to spiritual growth and the teachings of Jesus.

### **EXPEDITE**

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 4: 25-27







**Your ELA Team**  
 Laura Bardwell - Receptionist  
 Stacie Holt - K3 Teacher / Assistant Director  
 Anita Pierce - Director  
 Amanda Baldwin - Registrar/Assistant Director  
 Magdalena Van Hook - K3 Teacher / Assistant Director

A message from our Early Learning Academy Director,  
**ANITA PIERCE**

Welcome back! We are excited to have all of our students back on campus. As we begin a new school year, it is a perfect time to refresh. We will have the opportunity to strengthen current relationships as well as form new relationships with staff, families, and students. We are human and make mistakes. It is in our nature to become angry and frustrated. This is an easy concept in theory, but I sometimes struggle. As Christians, we have been given the gift of forgiveness and mercy. We need to extend that grace and mercy to others. It is important to take responsibility for our mistakes and apologize before the anger grows and we become resentful.

**ELA Hours 7:00am-6:00pm**

**Full-Time Preschool Hours**  
 Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:30pm  
 AM Plus Care 7:00-8:30am  
 PM Plus Care 2:30-4:30pm or 2:30-6:00pm

**Meet the Teacher**  
 Monday, August 12th

- Last name: A-G: 8:45 - 9:15am
- Last name: H-M: 9:30 - 10:00am
- Last name: N-Z: 10:15 - 10:45am

**First Day of School**  
 Tuesday, August 13th

**Part-Time Preschool Hours**  
 Days vary depending on program choice  
 8:30am-12:00pm  
 Stay & Play 12:00-2:00pm (starting Monday, 9/9)

**Meet the Teacher**  
 Monday, August 26th

- Last name: A-G: 9:15-9:45am
- Last name: H-M: 10:00 - 10:30am
- Last name: N-Z: 10:45 -11:15am

**First Day of School**  
 Tuesday, August 27th

Please be mindful of the wide range of program hours and approach the ELA parking lot with extreme caution. Thank you for keeping our youngest Broncos safe!







**Your Elementary Team**

Irene Perello - Assistant Principal  
Dana Duncan - Principal  
Amberly Kerr - Administrative Assistant  
Katy Cummings - Receptionist  
Jini Spruce - Secretary

A message from our Elementary Principal,  
**DANA DUNCAN**

We look forward to beginning the BACS 2024-2025 school year and developing new relationships. Forming friendships and learning how to deal with conflict is an important part of a child's growth. As followers of Christ, conflict resolution is an important aspect of our testimony. In Christian conflict resolution, the theme of "expedite" emphasizes the importance of addressing and resolving conflicts promptly, efficiently, and in a way that glorifies Christ. Christ advocated and modeled the biblical teachings of reconciliation and peace among believers. As Christians, we should avoid long disputes that can fester and build to greater division. Christ followers are encouraged to act quickly in seeking

forgiveness, offering restitution, restoring relationships, and extending love and grace. Restoration is a key aspect of the gospel. Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross was an important act of reconciliation between man and God. God demonstrated the depth of His great love for us through the cross. As Christians, we must model the forgiveness demonstrated to us and extend this grace to others. Jesus came to heal divisions and we must put this gospel truth of restoration into action to show the love of Christ to others. We look forward to discipling our elementary students and seeing their tremendous academic, social, and spiritual growth this school year. It is a wonderful year to be a Bronco!

## Open House Info

### Monday, August 12th

Last name: A-E: 1:00 – 1:30pm

Last name: F-L: 1:30 – 2:00pm

Last name: M-R: 2:00 – 2:30pm

Last name: S-Z: 2:30 – 3:00pm

- The [SkyTree Book Fair](#) will be set up in the Kids Commons.
- Southern Sass will be in the Chapel Foyer to purchase approved BACS spirit shirts.







A message from our Junior High Principal,

## JARED FUQUA

Junior High is a formative time for our students in that they are learning habits and social skills that will translate to adulthood. One of these skills is learning how to handle social adversity. When we are wronged, it is natural for us to let anger burn within our hearts and devise ways to get even or up the ante. This is not the way of God. He calls us to go to our brother (Matthew 5:23-24) and solve the issue peacefully. Conflict will take place, but we must respond biblically and not harbor ill will towards one another. My prayer is that our students will apply these biblical principles and remain unified in our hallways.

### Optional Locker Move-in & Schedule Pick-up

**Friday, August 9th**

Last Name: A-F 1:00 - 1:30pm

Last Name: G-L 1:30 - 2:00pm

Last Name: M-R 2:00 - 2:30pm

Last Name: S-Z 2:30 - 3:00pm

### Orientation Info

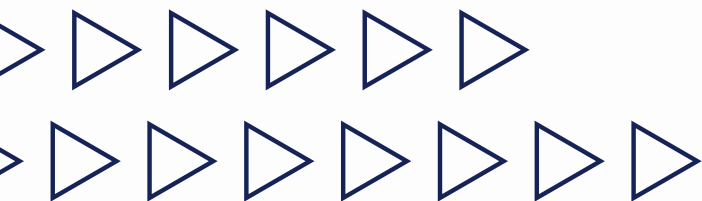
**Monday, August 12th  
in the Athletic Center**

- 8th Grade: 12:30pm
- 7th Grade: 1:30pm

Students and parents are invited!

### Open House

**Tuesday, August 20th  
6:30-8:30pm**





**Your High School Team**  
Lisa Harkness - Receptionist/Attendance Clerk  
Nancy Gadd - Counselor  
Amy Lopez - Administrative Assistant  
Harold Payne - Principal

A message from our High School Principal,

## HAROLD PAYNE

The start of a new school year is a wonderful opportunity to refresh and strengthen our relationships. Ephesians 4:26 inspires us to let go of any lingering frustrations and embrace this time as a chance for renewal. It's a perfect moment to foster a positive atmosphere by leaving past misunderstandings behind. By starting with a clean slate, we can build new connections and deepen existing ones. This fresh beginning encourages us to approach each day with optimism and a renewed commitment to kindness and collaboration.

### Chromebook Pick-up

#### Current 10th-12th graders

- Friday, August 9th
- 10am-noon & 1:00-4:00pm

#### 9th graders & new students

- Monday, August 12th
- 1:00-3:00pm

Click [here](#) to complete the BACS Technology Agreement before pick-up. **A Chromebook will not be issued without a signed agreement.**

This year, to support students in building better relationships, we are offering Peacemaker small groups designed to help them navigate conflict effectively. By joining, students will gain essential skills for resolving disagreements with parents, coaches, and peers, transforming challenges into opportunities for growth. They will learn when to assert themselves, when to forgive, and how to negotiate effectively. Most importantly, the group will help them strengthen their relationships and deepen their faith through the principles found in God's Word.

### Orientation Info

#### Monday, August 12th in the Fellowship Hall

- 12:00-12:30pm
- for incoming freshmen, students new to BACS, and parents!

### Open House Tuesday, August 20th 6:30-8:30pm







A message from our Academic Counselor,

# NANCY GADD

Sunrises and sunsets are one of my favorite things to watch. I have countless pictures on my phone. The colors, the stillness, the assurance of God's mighty hand over every detail of my day renews my strength and faith in Him. Creation is life, and He is our bread of life.

In contrast, anger fills us with frustration, discouragement, and ultimate sadness.

In Ephesians 6:12 it is clearly stated "For we do not fight against flesh and blood but against the powers of this dark world." Uncontrolled anger tears apart relationships and results in a separation from the power of God's love. Choose not to sin in anger. Let us stand together in the confidence of eternal God who begins and ends days with glory in the skies reminding us to let go, to love, and forgive.

## Testing Dates

### Upcoming SAT options

August 24th & October 5th

### Upcoming ACT options

September 14th & October 26th

## Upcoming Events

### Senior Parchment Accounts (set up in Bible classes)

August 16th

## Dual Credit Students

Please send in your summer grades to [nancy.gadd@bacschool.org](mailto:nancy.gadd@bacschool.org).





**Your Fine Arts Team**  
Jaime Slafka - Elementary Music  
Marianne Morrison - Fine Arts Director, Choir  
Elisabeth Hope - Orchestra  
Ashlie Fry - Elementary Art  
Glen Gray & Rebecca Rodriguez - Band  
(not pictured)

## A message from our Fine Arts Director, **MARIANNE MORRISON**

In Ephesians 4:26, we're reminded that we are to "Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger." Honest moment...this has sometimes been a struggle for me as a wife, mom, educator and human! I love the idea in theory...but in reality, outrage or frustration can come quickly, and my sin nature is loud with its feelings and demands. While it's natural and normal to feel and experience anger, if we claim to follow Christ, we must become aware of our feelings and emotions, learn to manage them, and release them to His care.

Learning good habits and unlearning bad habits takes time. In the same way that learning how to play an instrument or learn a new skill requires tedious repetition, practice, and attention, the art of practicing grace towards ourselves and others must also be practiced. In angry moments, we must learn to pause, ask for wisdom from the Holy Spirit, and learn to become responsive instead of reactive with our words, actions, and attitudes. Because we've received unmerited grace and forgiveness through Christ, we can extend grace and forgiveness to others, even in the most challenging circumstances.

### **After-School Music Opportunities**

After-school music is an excellent opportunity for students entering grades 1-6 who are interested in gaining extra knowledge and training in music. Please click this [link](#) to learn more about the available options and register. **The deadline to sign up is Friday, August 23rd.** If you submitted the form at the end of last year, we have received and recorded your response, so there is no need to submit the form again. Class availability is limited due to size, and registrations will be received on a first-come, first-served basis.







**Your Athletics Team**  
Kyle Kennedy - Director  
Jennifer Hall - Coordinator  
Tom Bradley - Trainer  
Trac Cook - Concessions Coordinator

## A message from our Athletics Director, **KYLE KENNEDY**

This particular verse, Ephesians 4:26, speaks to me about managing my emotions in a healthy way. Try to resolve conflicts and misunderstandings as soon as possible. Knowing that holding on to anger can lead to bitterness, it is important to address issues before they get bigger. Lastly, not letting the sun go down on your anger. I know that I need to seek reconciliation and peace. I should be striving to talk things out and apologize when needed.

### Fall Sports News

#### Football

Broncos will play at home against The Village School next Friday, August 16th at 6:30pm in their first scrimmage of the year.

#### Volleyball

Lady Broncos first game of the season will be Tuesday, Aug. 13th 6:00pm (home) against Brazosport Christian.

#### Cross Country

Girls & Boys Cross Country runners will compete on August 24th at 8:00am at St. John XXIII for their first race of the season.

#### Cheer

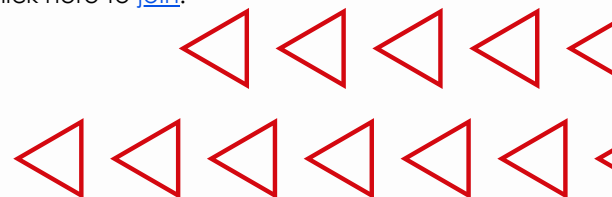
We can't wait to see those Bronco cheerleaders on the sidelines! They've attended camps and practices all summer in preparation to cheer on our Broncos.

### Physicals

All athletes must have a [physical](#) on file prior to tryouts, and/or, the first day of practice.

### Become a Bronco Backer

Our Bronco Backer membership registration is still live. Those VIP stadium seats are filling up fast! We'd love for you to be a part of what the Bronco Backers do for our student athletes and Fine Arts students at BACS! Click here to [join!](#)





A message from our Director of Student Support,

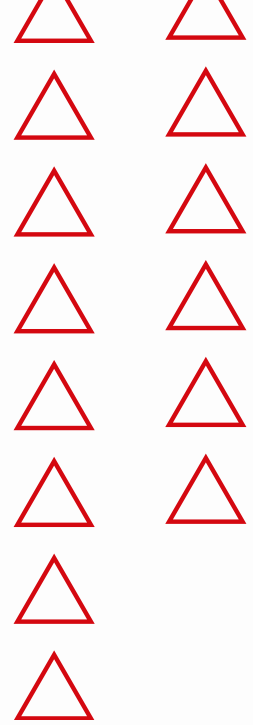
## MIKE AMMONS

Ephesians 4:26 teaches a welcomed and timely reminder to all of God's people that we are called to peace and restoration even when there are issues we disagree on. All relationships will experience disagreement. To some degree disagreement is healthy and necessary. Productive discourse over ideas we see differently can sharpen our understanding regarding challenging topics. At times, however, debate over disagreement might lead to frustration or anger, even justified anger.

But this passage serves as a clear reminder, we are called to seek a peaceful resolution when anger flares up. The reason for this is made clear in the very next verse, lingering anger gives the devil the opportunity to create division. And "no house divided against itself will stand." There will be times even brothers and sisters in Christ disagree. But even in disagreement we are called to live in submission to God's will, which means peacefully resolving conflict and living in the fellowship of Christian community.







A message from our Director of Curriculum and Instruction,

# LINDA MUDGETT

If I find that I am angry or struggling with any other emotion, I say a simple prayer: "Jesus, please take this anger away from me regarding \_\_\_\_\_. I don't want it any more. Jesus, please heal my soul regarding this anger. Jesus, what do you have for me in exchange?" This is so helpful for me, but I find that I need to be intentional about it. Another practice that I wish I did more is Lectio Divina.

At the end of the day, go through these 5 steps: Prepare (Silence), Read (Scripture), Meditate (Reflect), Pray (Respond), Contemplate (Rest). Part of this practice is to think about the day and the times that you felt the Holy Spirit in a situation or not and talk to God about it as well as to confess and set the stage clean for an untroubled sleep and for the next day.

## Summer Reading Reminder

**Don't forget to finish your assigned reading and complete the assignments.**

[Elementary Info](#)  
[Secondary Info](#)

## Book Fair

We are hosting [SkyTree Book Fair](#) for our K-8th grade families this year! It will be held during Open House on Monday, August 12th from 1:00-3:00pm in the Kids' Commons. Volunteers are needed to help set-up and tear-down the fair. If you would like to help, please click [here](#) to sign-up.



# BRONCO ANNOUNCEMENTS



Tuesday, August 13, 2024 is the FIRST day of school! Secondary begins at 7:45am. Elementary begins at 7:55am.



**Uniforms will be worn on the first day of school.** Have you purchased yours yet? It usually takes a couple of weeks for delivery. School approved Lands' End and Under Armour only!



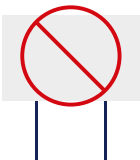
Remember to order your Bronco's lunches by this Sunday, August 11th at 8:30pm through your FACTS account or click on the 'Lunch' icon in the BACS app to get started. If your student plans to visit the snack bar, please add funds now through FACTS (also available in the app under 'Financials.' If you need to cancel a lunch for ANY reason, email [lunch@bacschool.org](mailto:lunch@bacschool.org) BEFORE 8:30am. Cancellations after this time will not be refunded. Please send paper plates with your child, if needed. Check out our [NEW LUNCH MENU!](#)



Teacher Wish Lists are accessible by clicking [here](#) or visiting our new [website](#) and clicking on academics, your division, then important links, and Teacher Wish Lists.



If your student will be taking daily medications while at school, please print and fill out the [Long Term Medication Form](#) and drop it off along with the medication to the nurse's office on Monday, August 12 during Open House.



Please, no personal yard signs on campus.



At the beginning of every school year, we like to honor and inform those K-12th grade **"Very Involved Persons"** who will be volunteering in the classroom or on the campus anytime during the year. We have many areas for you to be a part of and sign up! This is a great time to gather with old friends and make new ones. An email invitation for our Very Involved Persons Breakfast on **Friday, August 23 @ 8:00 am** will be sent soon. Feel free to click [here](#) to RSVP now.

