



ST. EDMUND'S ACADEMY

WILLIAM L. KINDLER, PH.D · HEAD OF SCHOOL

KEEPING IN TOUCH

September 1, 2010

Dear Parents,

Whew! The first day of St. Edmund's Academy's 63rd year is now history. For the most part, the day went very well. The students were exceptional - participating in and responding positively to all of the start-up procedures and tasks, and I believe they are now ready to begin their programs. The faculty and staff were well-prepared to receive members of the community with warmth and smiles. SEA's classrooms and facilities are in high readiness for the busy learning days ahead. This outstanding team will now guide a very productive year. I express a special thanks to our new families who braved everything new and survived with a resilience we are proud to recognize.

We felt the increased enrollment in more buses with a larger number of students aboard, more cars entering the arrival and dismissal lines, and a heavier than usual number of persons entering and departing the school at all entrances. Regardless of all the planning for a new school year, there are bound to be "glitches" that require on-the-spot attention and resolution. Not surprisingly, a few issues surfaced when executing the arrival and departure procedures. The controllable system worked well. Unfortunately, we had a few blemishes due to the lack of patience and understanding on part of some drivers. At the end of the day, I received several civility concerns and a formal traffic complaint at dismissal time from a city councilman's office. **At dismissal, those traveling down Darlington Road MUST stay as close to the left side as possible so that regular car movement can continue on Darlington.** Preference must also be given to home owners attempting to back out of drive ways. This was one of the issues resulting in the formal complaint. Internally, when asked to circle around due to your child not being ready to be placed in your car, please do so with civility even though we know that it is frustrating. Believe me, it is frustrating for the supervisors, also. The system flow becomes more efficient after a few days of practice and working through whatever adjustments are appropriate.

As expressed earlier, our primary theme remains for the St. Edmund's Academy Community to live each day the six Core Values that continue to anchor our mission and programs. With the new Anti-Bullying Statement and Policy and the revised Code of Conduct in place for all grade levels, all members of the Community know St. Edmund's Academy's behavior expectations clearly. Both are found on pages 44-46 of the Parent Handbook. Teachers discussed the Code of Conduct with students in all grades on the first day using positive, age-appropriate methods. Regular emphasis will be a part of normal day experiences. To support these behavior expectations, all adults must be role models for our students to emulate. Quite frankly, some of the adult action yesterday I referred to in the previous paragraph would not have been consistent with our Code of Conduct.

This is September 1 and a glorious day to be at St. Edmund's Academy thrust in one of the more worthwhile endeavors available to any professional ---being with children in their quest for learning. So that my letters do not become too "verbose" as some have noted, I will end here. BUT..... you will receive another shortly, as we have too many wonderful happenings on the agenda in which I want to urge your participation. Please place on your calendar NOW, Friday, October 15, for the **RE-INVENT The Great Event Party at the Construction Junction.** What a wonderful, new and refreshing evening for all St. Edmund's Academy families. I know that you have received information on the party, so act now.

Thank you for being our trusted partners at this time and place in our students' young lives.

Sincerely,

William Kindler