



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS K-11 Students,

This past Friday the BCCS Board of Education sent out a letter announcing the *new* Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. David King. A copy of the letter is provided below. Today we introduced Mr. King to the students and he will spend some time getting to know teachers and staff this week. On behalf of the BCCS Educational Community....” Welcome to our small but mighty school Mr. King!”

Along with this information, I am happy to announce some internal changes for the 2024-25 school year.

As many are aware, Mrs. Nunn (BCCS 5th grade teacher) has announced her resignation from BCCS as she will remain home raising her two daughters. We will certainly miss Mrs. Nunn, and we are grateful for her service to the BCCS educational community the past two years. We wish Mrs. Nunn and her family well!

At this time, I am happy to announce two internal staffing changes for the 2024-25 School Year. Mrs. Shanklin (current Kindergarten Teacher) will be transitioning to 5th grade next year. We believe this is a good selection given the history of Mrs. Shanklin at BCCS. Mrs. Shanklin has been a successful BCCS teacher for the past 7 years during which time her students have consistently demonstrated above average student performance in both achievement and growth. She possesses strong organizational and instructional skills that will surely be of benefit to the BCCS 5th grade students. We will miss her services in Kindergarten, yet look forward to continued success in 5th grade.

Mrs. DeVries, current Mid-High Resource Room, will be transitioning to Kindergarten next year. Many of you may know, Mrs. DeVries accepted the Resource Room Position two years ago by school request. She had experience and was certified in teaching Special Education, though at that time she had received her MI certification in Elementary Education and was seeking a placement in an elementary classroom. We are thankful for her service in the Mid-High Resource Room, we are looking forward to benefiting from her many years of experience and recent training in elementary education for the BCCS Kindergarten classroom. We believe her genuine care and kindness along with her background and experience at BCCS and in the educational field provide a solid foundation for her success as the BCCS Kindergarten teacher.

Please join BCCS teachers and staff in welcoming Mrs. Shanklin and Mrs. DeVries to their new roles for the 2024-25 school year.

Finally, this leaves the Mid-High Resource Room position open for the 2024-25 school year. We have interviewed and offered the position to a candidate, yet the decision has not been finalized to date. We expect to know the disposition of the position by the end of the week.

Copy of the BOE Letter to the BCCS Parents and Guardians last Friday

We hope this email finds all of you doing well on the last full Friday of the 23-24 school year. I hope each of you have a chance to get out and enjoy this beautiful sunshine!

We wanted to follow up with all of you regarding a few of the next steps that we are hoping to transpire in the next few weeks and beyond with regards to our new incoming CAO/School Principal. Please read this email in its entirety as it contains quite a bit of information.

Our new CAO/School Principal will be Mr. David King. He comes to us directly from the Grand Rapids area. He brings with him a great resume and wonderful references. Our School Improvement Team and the Board have met with him several times throughout the interview process. He has a lot of experience and knowledge working with Charter schools and we are hopeful that it will bring a boost to our small but mighty school.

Over the next few weeks, the school board will be working with Mr. King and Mr. Kasmer to make a smooth transition. During this time, we, as a board, are asking that you be patient with the school as we are navigating through this transition. There is so much that goes into bringing on someone new, and then learning the way of our school.

We hope this information is helpful to you as we come upon the end of the school year. We know that all of you are busy. We are so grateful and thankful for our school students, parents, guardians, etc! We could never express that enough!

Again, we are looking forward to our new CAO joining us soon and are excited to see our BCCS community continue to thrive and grow in our community. We will continue to keep you posted as things progress. Please make sure to watch your inbox next week for a letter from our new CAO/Principal!

If you have any questions regarding any of this, please ask one of the board members. We would be grateful for your cooperation in this matter.

BCCS Board of Education

Pam Anderson

Nathan VanDussen

David Bolt

David VanEe

Troy Hooker

In closing.... BCCS is fortunate to have professionals with the experience, education and background knowledge to fill the vacancies for the next school year. I believe the staffing selections provide BCCS the opportunity to continue to grow and flourish as an effective school. As always, we ask for, and appreciate, your awareness and continued support.

With Care,

Mark R. Kasmer
Chief Administrative Officer
Byron Center Charter School