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## August Newsletter/Welcome Back

### Principal's Welcome

The BPAIA faculty and staff would like to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year. We look forward to the continued academic progress and success of our students. We ask parents to continue their support of school policies and expectations. Students are expected to be **respectful, responsible, and safe**. With parental and teacher support, students can strive for personal excellence.

Last school year was not without challenges and hurdles to overcome. Although we had seven new teachers (half of them first year to career), three different teachers in third grade, and a new principal with different expectations—we were able to maintain our 'B'. This year we welcome two new teachers to our BPAIA family. Mr. Jorge Rodriguez and Mr. Roberto Lantigua will be teaching 4<sup>th</sup> grade ELA and 5<sup>th</sup> grade all subjects, respectively. They come to us with previous teaching experience and an eagerness to challenge and help our students grow academically and emotionally. An 'A' is very possible this year and I am prepared and enthusiastic about the prospects of reaching that goal.

### Agenda

Every month you will be receiving a newsletter from me detailing upcoming events, school-wide triumphs, student success stories, and school, faculty and staff news. This will serve as one of the many ways that we all can stay connected and informed on what is happening at BPAIA.

I truly believe in teaching the whole child and addressing all phases of a child's learning process. Academically, my faculty will be focusing on all aspects pedagogy, but with a focus on our school's Powerful Practice which is Using Assessments in Instruction. Using Assessments in Instruction will be the common thread in which my teachers will be specifically evaluated on and expected to carry out with rigor and precision.

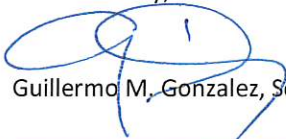
Our Positive Behavior Incentive System (PBIS) theme is **Under the S.E.A** (Students Excelling Academically) which is tied to a token system which recognizes the entire class whenever they are following the three school-wide rules of being **respectful, responsible, and safe**. Classrooms earning the most tokens every month will be recognized by me and all students' names which are in school every day and on time will be placed in a raffle and have an opportunity to earn a special reward from the school.

The third and very important piece that will be new this school year is the Social Emotional Learning piece. My kindergarten students will be using Second Step, which is a research-based program that has been a trailblazer in the field for over 40 years. The belief in supporting children's social-emotional development helps them grow as learners, build better relationships, and feel happier and more successful—with powerful benefits not just for school but for a lifetime.

Lastly, I stress the importance of being mindful and purposeful with everything that we do. Therefore, every day one classroom will send two students to the office to state the school pledge, school creed, and a robust word of the day. We will also have a 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Recycling Club, various new and fun after-school activities, encourage 5<sup>th</sup> graders to dress in professional attire every Monday, and I personally invite all my parents and community members to join me the last Friday of every month for "Cafecito with Mr. G", where you may join me and discuss any issues, concerns, and/or triumphs that you may want to share. Please join me.

I look forward to meeting and working with each of you throughout this school year and beyond.

Professionally,



Guillermo M. Gonzalez, School Principal

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*Home of the Bulldogs*