



Thư của Hiệu trưởng      Wargad ka socota Maamulaha  
校长的信  
*From the Principal*  
Liham mula sa Principal  
*Carta del Director*

September 12, 2011

Dear Beacon Hill Families,

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! For all of you who are starting school with us for the first time, we want to wish you a special welcome. Beacon Hill, “A World of Learners”, is an inspiring place to learn, achieve and grow for all of our students who come from all different cultures and backgrounds. Together, at Beacon Hill, the staff and I will work with you to ensure that your child masters the 21<sup>st</sup> century ABCs – **A**cademic Excellence (mastery of subjects such as reading, math and science), **B**ilingualism (learning more than one language), and **C**ultural (or Global) **C**ompetence (learning to be compassionate and understanding global citizens).

As many of you know, this is my first year at Beacon Hill. I am replacing the widely-respected, greatly-admired, and recently-retired Dr. Susie Murphy. Following in her footsteps isn't going to be an easy task, but I promise to work hard to continue her great work in advocating for the school and continually raising the level of excellence for your children. Prior to Beacon Hill, I was the principal at John Stanford International School, Seattle's first international/language immersion school. While there, I learned a great deal about international and language immersion education that I know will serve me well as we continue to grow our program together here.

We have an incredible, committed group of educators at Beacon Hill to care for and empower your children. Joining our team this year are:

- **Ashley Meier – 2/3 Grade Teacher** – Ms. Meier is taking the place of Ms. Kim who is staying home this year with her beautiful new baby boy! Ms. Meier has been a second grade teacher in California and is excited to be joining Ms. Alexakos and Ms. Bratsanos to teach reading, writing and social studies to our second and third graders.
- **Nicole Titus – Bilingual Teacher** – Ms. Titus is coming from John Stanford International School with me and is excited to work with the other bilingual teachers, Ms. Black and Ms. Eng, to support students at Beacon Hill who are learning English as a second language.
- **Sharon Head – Special Education Teacher** – Ms. Head is joining Ms. Luk to serve the needs of our wonderful students who have IEPs. Ms. Head has extensive experience in special education and will be a strong advocate for our students with special needs.
- **Tingting Zhang – Chinese Guest Teacher** – Ms. Tingting (or Tingting Lǎoshī) – is coming to Beacon Hill all the way from our sister school, Renmin Primary School, in Chongqing, China! We are excited to have her teach Mandarin to our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and to support students in the K-3 Mandarin program with Ms. Chen.
- **Ashley Duncan – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher** – Ms. Duncan will be here through November as a substitute for Ms. Foster who will be taking leave for the first part of the year. Ms. Duncan comes highly recommended from other schools as an outstanding substitute who will start the year strong for our fourth graders before passing the baton back to Ms. Foster.

For the first half of the school year, to help me get to know all of you and the school better, I will be scheduling times to meet with groups of families to talk about the different programs and services at Beacon Hill. I want to hear your perspective on what has been working well for your children, what you would like to see work better, and what questions you might have. In addition

to these meeting times, you are always welcome to e-mail or call me. And, I'm always happy to meet with families in person – you can schedule meetings with me through Ms. Williams in the main office. Please note that I try to spend most of the school day in classrooms with the staff and students, which can limit my access during the day. However, I will make every effort to get back to you within 24 hours. Your children are my number one priority. And the more time I spend with them and their teachers, the more I can support and advocate for them.

It is a dream-come-true for me to be here at Beacon Hill with all of you. I first visited (and fell in love with) Beacon Hill 5 years ago during a visit, and I've never forgotten the joy of learning that I witnessed amongst the students, staff and families – the same joy that I see today. To be able to serve all of you as your principal is something I will do to the very best of my ability and with all my dedication and passion.

Here's to a GREAT school year!

*Mr. Aramaki* – 校長荒牧 - Gg. Aramaki - *Sr. Aramaki*

*Announcements*    *Avisos*    公告    Paunawa    **Thông báo**    Ogasiiis

- **New!! End-of-the-day Pick-Up** – Parents who walk (from home or car/bus) to pick up their children at the end of the day must now wait outside the main office in front of the school. Teachers will bring your students outside to meet you. Students who get picked up by car (with the parent waiting in the car), will be brought to Hill Street by a staff member until your car pulls up. Students who ride the bus will be brought to the bus by a staff member.
- **School Communication** – It is so important for families to stay connected with what's going on at school. In addition to receiving *From the Principal* Newsletters, you will also get phone messages keeping you up-to-date on what's happening at Beacon Hill. Phone messages will go home in English as well as in our six main home languages (Tagalog, Somali, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin and Spanish). If you would like a message in a language other than English, but didn't receive one this past, please contact one of the assistants listed at the bottom of this letter.
- **Breakfast at BHIS** – Breakfast is offered in the BHIS cafeteria from 8:35 – 8:55. The cost is free for students who qualify for free/reduced lunch. For all others, the cost is \$1.75. Due to limited space and a growing number of Beacon Hill students, parents may no longer stay in the lunchroom during breakfast.

*Calendar*    *Calendario*    日历    Kalendaryo    **Lịch**    Taarikhda

9/27	PTA Welcome Meeting & Potluck (childcare provided) in Multipurpose Room (MPR) from 6:15 – 8:30
9/28	2 Hour Early Dismissal (School gets out at 1:00 pm)
9/30	Picture Day! Free Dress Day (students do not have to wear uniforms on this day) Picture order packets will go home next week.

*For Translation Support*

*Para Apoyo en Traducción*

對於翻譯支持

Tagasalin ng Wika

Đôi với dịch Hõ trợ

Caawin Tarjumaan

Tagalog – Celeste @ 252-2682

Việt –Nga @ 252-2682

*Español* – Chilo @ 252-2681

粤语/ 国语 – Agnes @ 252-2670

Somali –Abdi @ 252-2682

*Español* – Ranann @ 252-2681

国语 – Peggy @ 252-2670