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April 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian of a 17-18 SY BDCHS Student:

We are looking forward to welcoming your child for the 2017-2018 school year. As we prepare for the necessary instructional materials for each department (Math, Science, English Language Arts, Social Science, and Elective), it is best to order the basic items and subscriptions for online access in the summer and have the materials ready for the start of school so that instructional time is not lost.

A minimum Instructional Enhancement donation of \$100 would allow us to divvy up funds among all five departments to order classroom materials beginning July 1st, the start of our fiscal year. Any donation above the \$100 minimum will only further enhance classroom instruction in other areas of need-- namely, consumable items and equipment that needs replacing for various programs. The donation *will* cover the cost of the science lab fee (\$15), art fee (\$10), lock rental for lockers (\$5), and parking hangtag (\$5) which otherwise would be owed the first week of school. This donation *does not* count towards volunteer hours and *does not* cover the cost of the supplies your child will need such as notebooks, pencils, calculator, etc. **Your donation will allow us to purchase much needed items/renew programs such as the following:**

- Advanced Placement Textbooks (up to \$300 per book)
- Advanced Placement Tests (approx. \$90 per student)
- Additional and new replacement textbooks (approx. \$85 per book)
- Science lab equipment (e.g. 25 glass beakers, \$250 for the set)
- Elective materials such as sheet music, art supplies, world language headsets, etc.
- Additional and replacement PE equipment

The cost of keeping up with current technology has stretched our budget beyond the per pupil funding the state allocates. We have chosen to use a lease model so that technology can be refreshed every three years. *We cannot provide this current technology without your support.* We are asking for each family for a \$50 technology fee to offset the expense in our school's operational budget for technology. When thinking about \$50 for ten months of technology use during the school year, this equates to \$5 a month for technology (the cost of a premium cup of coffee).

Some of the technology used in our program for your child includes:

- Over 100 desktop computers in computer labs and in various instructional areas

- Nine laptop carts with 25-30 devices in each cart
- Nine tablet carts with 25-30 devices in each cart
- Ten new document cameras
- Network services (e.g. Google Classroom, Net Support, Internet Safety Filters)
- Student Management Systems (e.g. Edsby, FOCUS Scheduler, Lotterease)
- *Gizmo* (interactive science lab software, \$674 for annual license)
- *Quia* (interactive assessment software tool, \$500 for annual license)
- *Turn It In* (anti-plagiarism software)
- *CCC Streaming* (library of educational videos, \$500 for annual license)
- *Study Island*-online reading, test prep program, universal screener (approx. \$1200)
- NWEA Map Assessment (norm referenced computer based assessment for Reading and Math (approx. \$1,250 for annual license)

Please make checks payable for \$150 to BDCHS with your student's name and grade level on the memo line.

Non-profit charter schools such as BDCHS must manage a balanced, site based budget, and we remain firm in our commitment to providing a quality, private school education with no tuition. With your help and support, we can maintain our high academic achievement level for your child with continual A Grades from the Florida Department of Education while offering our students the very best resources for learning.

Thank you for your support of your child's education.

Sincerely,
Kristine Bennett, Ed.S.
Proud Principal