

# BAYSIDE ACADEMY

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COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

October 29, 2019

Greetings Bayside Upper School Parents,

I hope you are all well. I am getting ready to head back home from Atlanta with Mrs. Propst and Mrs. Hughes. We have been at the SAIS Conference since Sunday. While here, we have been engaged in meaningful discussions about the future of independents schools in our region, the increasing need to define our value proposition to stakeholders, and, most importantly, the imperative for us all to evaluate how we are meeting the needs of our students in hopes of preparing them for the future.

This morning, some of you were able to sit in with our guest speaker for Red Ribbon week, Dr. Dew. He also spoke with our 7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Chair of the Counseling and Psychological Services at Georgia State, Dr. Dew presented current research related to vaping and substance abuse trends. Tailoring his presentations separately to parents and students, Dr. Dew also covered the emotional and physical ramifications of addiction. In addition to garnering awards for his research in this field, he is Atlanta's primary representative to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. We always look forward to Red Ribbon Week as it allows us to have explicit conversations about substance abuse and the dangers associated with it from a physical and emotional perspective.

Our volleyball team left this morning to embark on what we hope will be their 18<sup>th</sup> straight state championship. You all should have received an email yesterday with the Buy Now Give Now link that allows you to purchase your student's spot on the bus. Please remember to send your student with money to get into the contest as well as money for food. We will likely stop for a late dinner on the way back from Birmingham. Please remember too that, per AHSAA academic guidelines, we are not allowing any student who failed a 1<sup>st</sup> quarter class or who currently has an F or a cumulative average of 70 or below to attend the tournament. Students do not need to miss school if they are currently struggling with one or more classes. Thank you for your understanding.

On Thursday, students in grades 7–12 will be allowed to dress in Halloween attire. We encourage our students to take part in this spirited day and will offer further guidelines as Thursday draws near. Those who are riding on the volleyball fan bus will leave campus at 1:00. Lastly, we wish our cross country team good luck as they participate in sectionals on Friday.

My best,



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Head of Upper School  
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