



October 29, 2007

Dear Parents,

Fall Break provided a much needed rest from our busy academic and athletic schedule and we returned to the colorful foliage that graces our campus every fall. While on break, I was asked over and over again from non-La Lumiere community members why we take a break from school only seven weeks into the year. I then have the wonderful opportunity to explain how industrious and assiduous our students, faculty and staff work in those seven weeks, and how deserving they all are to have some time to recharge and re-energize. Judging from the energy level and morale of both students and faculty these days, it seems as though the break served its purpose.

Before we left on break we were treated to a presentation from Len Jennings, La Lumiere Class of 1986, who was also a classmate of mine at Boston College. Mr. Jennings now lives in Fort Myers, FL., where he is the news anchor for the ABC affiliate. He spoke to the students about making career decisions, acting with integrity, and how the values and character he developed at La Lumiere were relevant and significant twenty years later. His insightful and humorous presentation allowed us to take a step back and offered us perspective to our daily activities.

Len's presentation struck me because he was helping us understand what each of us does on a daily basis *is* preparation for the next day, the next year, the next four years, or for life. In Len's profession, he sometimes has only minutes to prepare to deliver the news people will depend on and trust to be correct and truthful. You as parents trust us to impart wisdom, to instill values, and to develop character. What we practice and preach every *day*, is in fact preparation for the *next*.

After we returned from break, the Sixth Form parents had a pot-luck in Moore House as Dr. Campbell presented on the college counseling process at La Lumiere. Other class pot-lucks have been planned, please contact Beth Thompson at the School for further information.

As the sports seasons wind down this month, I want to congratulate the cross-country team on their second place finish in the Christian School Association (CSA) State Championships in Indianapolis. The soccer team enjoyed a solid 9-4 season and played into the second round of the CSA Tournament. As the volleyball and football seasons

came to a close, I was proud of the progress the teams made. Both teams continued to show progress and school pride while they competed.

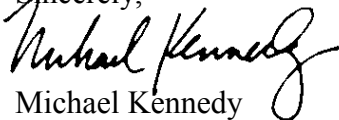
The CSA is made up of schools our size, which also may not have IHSAA membership. When asked recently about this, I responded that we are pleased to be competing in an end-of-the-year tournament, but we are a part of this association for athletics only. When it comes to academics, professional development, and other extra-curricular activities, we align ourselves with other independent schools that are a part of our accrediting body, The Independent Schools of the Central States (ISACS: www.isacs.org) and The National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS: www.nais.org). Both organizations provide for us a wealth of resources, one in particular is their website with special sections just for parents. I strongly encourage you to visit one site or both.

Coming up in November is the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. But before we eat, we first must dance, and the Fall Ball will be held on November 10. Further information will be forthcoming from Student Council. The Senior Retreat will take place November 8 and 9, and a few of the faculty will head to Indianapolis for the annual ISACS Conference. Also in November, we open the basketball season, strike up the pep band, and begin practice for our drama production.

When this arrives at your home, I will be in Asia with The Association of Boarding Schools attending school fairs in Beijing, Shanghai, Tokyo, and Seoul. I will visit with alumni in each city and have a reception planned in Seoul with our Korean Parents Association. As you saw in our *La Lumiere Magazine*, La Lumiere's campus stretches well beyond the 155 acres on Wilhelm Road. My hope is to bring home some more stories and the experiences of our accomplished alumni.

Enjoy the last days of October,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "K".

Michael Kennedy
Headmaster