



June 2009

Dear Westbriar Families,

I am excited and honored to have been named the new principal of Westbriar Elementary School, effective July 1. After working at Westbriar approximately 12 years ago, I feel so fortunate to be returning to this wonderful school community. I look forward to working together with each of you during the coming school year.

I have a long and varied history in Fairfax County Public Schools. I began my career with the county as a fifth grade teacher. I was a classroom teacher for nearly 20 years teaching a variety of grade levels at four different elementary schools and working with students with special needs, gifted students and students with limited English proficiency.

When computers were first introduced into the classroom, I saw the power of technology to improve teaching and learning. I worked as a technology resource teacher, shared between Churchill Road Elementary and Westbriar and eventually became a school based technology specialist. As I was completing my Masters in Educational Leadership at George Mason, I served as a LEAD Fairfax Administrative Intern. For the last four years, I have been the Assistant Principal at a nearby Vienna school, Stenwood Elementary.

I hope this letter finds you relaxing and enjoying your summer break! Over the summer, I will begin to meet with staff members and the PTA to learn more about the strengths, traditions and practices at Westbriar. I look forward to conversations with staff, parents and students to plan for Westbriar's continued strong academic success as we build and maintain relationships of respect and trust.

Enjoy the slower pace of summer and time with family and friends!

Sincerely,

Joanne C. Goodwin