

Dear Byron Center Christian School Community,

In just a little over a week, I will officially begin serving the Byron Center Christian School community as principal. I look forward to getting to know you and your children as the school year begins next month. Your prayers are greatly appreciated for all the work that teachers and staff are currently doing to start the year on a positive note. Please pray that as a community we are all daily seeking God's leading and wisdom for the benefit of your children and Kingdom building in service to Him.

Here is a little more information about me and my experience in Christian education. I was born in Bozeman, Montana but grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan starting at the age of three. My entire K-12 education experience was in the Kalamazoo Christian School system. I graduated from high school in 1996 and then entered the education program at Calvin College. I graduated in 2000 with degrees in elementary education, mathematics and science. I also received my masters in educational leadership from Western Michigan University in 2005.

I began my teaching career as the middle school math teacher at West Side Christian in Grand Rapids where I taught for 14 years. In the summer of 2014, I had the opportunity to move my family to Grand Haven and begin a new chapter of life serving as the principal of Grand Haven Christian School. I have learned a great deal in my time as principal there and hope to be able to take those experiences and contribute to the growth of BCCS.

My wife Wendy, who is tremendously supportive, and I have three sons, Ben (8th), John (6th), and Luke (3rd). We are looking to relocate our family to the Byron Center area, but have not yet found a place to call home.

I am excited to see the great things that happen daily at BCCS with the mission of providing an excellent education, rooted in God's Word, preparing students for lifelong service in God's Kingdom.

Blessings,

Mr. Onderlinde