



# BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL

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*Embracing Diversity, Striving for Excellence*

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**Hello BFS students and parents,**

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

I hope you are excited as I am to start the 2017-2018 school year at BFS! My name is Mr. Michael Dickinson (students call me Mr. "D") and I will be teaching all four high school computer science classes (Intro to Computer Science 1 & 2, AP Computer Science A, and AP Computer Science Principles). My family and I moved here this summer from England and have already fallen in love with Busan, its wonderful people, its culture, and of course our new home at Busan Foreign School.

I'd like to tell you some information about me and I look forward to hearing more about you soon. I was born at West Point, New York and traveled the world as a military dependent. I moved nine times prior to college, living several years in Germany along the way. I received a B.S. in Computer Science in 1988 and spent several years as a software engineer in the U.S. Air Force. I then made a huge career transition, spending 18 months in training to become an Air Force pilot. I flew the C-130 Hercules and Gulfstream V aircraft all over the world, amassing 2,500 hours of flight time over 14 years. After serving my country, I turned my focus back to my true passions of teaching, technology and grooming the next generation of leaders and global citizens, both in and out of the classroom. My wife is the Kindergarten teacher at BFS and we have two wonderful children, Max and Kate, and two furry, lovable dogs, Jay and Liz Lemon.

As for BFS computer science...regardless of which course students take at BFS, they will be challenged and we will absolutely have fun! This is an exciting, rigorous field of study that will better prepare you for life after high school. After all, computers are everywhere. Be prepared to work hard and think critically so we can tackle real-world problems together!

One formal note: students will need to bring their laptop, a writing journal reserved for their computer science class, and a pencil. Easy! I can't wait to get started. I can't wait to learn more about you! I will see you on Wednesday.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dickinson