

Opening Assembly Remarks by Head of Upper School Jim Reynolds

Dear all,

Welcome back to school. I am excited to see all of you and to be heading into another productive year.

As the various big news events of the summer unfolded – the Trayvon Martin/George Zimmerman verdict, the conflict in Syria, the wild fires of the West, the continuing debates over fracking, health care and the world economies, the paralysis of Washington, the 50th anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and the terrific competition at the U.S. Open tournament – I was struck by how complex this globalized world is.

As I look out at all of you students, from first grade through Form VI, I am encouraged about our future. You young men are the future of this country and we who work with you – teachers, advisors, coaches – hope that you will recognize the importance of securing a strong academic foundation. You are the leaders of tomorrow. I urge you to engage now. Take yourselves seriously; set high your personal bar. Seek to improve your grades over last year, and try an activity you have never tried before. Make yourselves proud.

I hope you meet with the success to which you aspire, and know that all of the members of this community support your intellectual ambitions, and thank you in advance for your contributions to the Browning School.

Go, Panthers!