

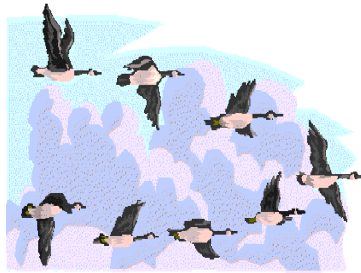
# *Administratively Speaking*

## **Welcome Back!**

Dear Parents and Guardians of Beverly Farms Elementary School Students,

I hope that all of you had a restful and relaxing summer and are ready to begin another positive and successful school year. Our never-ending pursuit towards improvement is fueled by our collaborative efforts to offer our children a nurturing and first-rate learning environment. The grandness of this pursuit is evident when one commits to the actions that are needed to fulfill the commitments stated in our school's vision: Beverly Farms, in partnership with the community, is committed to excellence in teaching and learning, in a caring environment where diversity is respected. The value we place on educating the whole child drives our purpose. We all thrive together! With that end, let us begin this new school year with some words upon which to reflect.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Brown



### Lessons from Geese

by  
Milton Olson

#### ***Lesson 1***

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an “uplift” for the bird following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

#### ***Lesson 2***

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly get into formation to take advantage of the “lifting power” of the bird immediately in front.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as the goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go and be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to the others.

### ***Lesson 3***

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing the leadership. With people, as with geese, we are interdependent on each other.

### ***Lesson 4***

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those in front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.

### ***Lesson 5***

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own with another formation, or catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as the geese we, too, will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.