

## Head of School

“He, who risks nothing, has nothing.” French proverb

Seventeen years ago I came across the above proverb. I don't remember where I read it, but I wrote it down on a slip of paper. This summer, as I cleaned out some very old files, I found it. Reading it once again brought a smile to my face and tears to my eyes. Beginning a school takes a great deal of risk. Moving a school forward also takes a great deal of risk. Those who have been a part of this wonderful journey know the rewards risk brings. The rewards have been many and so have the blessings.

From the moment you enter our school, you will feel the warmth and joy of being a part of this journey.

Since our school's founding in 1993, Good Sam has grown considerably. Our first class of Good Sammers ranged in age from 2 ½ - 4 ½ years. Their classes met Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 – 11:30 AM. The enrollment was 45 students. Today our school's average enrollment is 105 students in eight classes. In the fall of 2007 we started our elementary program and currently we are teaching children in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. In the fall of 2010 we will open the program to 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Childhood is a magical time. Our first priority at Good Sam School is to keep that magic alive. We not only make ice cream, bring in pets and have holiday parties, we sing and dance and laugh. We want school to be a special place where children get to do special things. We want our children to feel safe. We maintain a calm pace. Our classrooms are exciting, but peaceful. We pay special attention to providing the perfect balance between fun and academics.

My staff and I spend a lot of time getting to know each child as an individual. The teachers keep track of each child's unique strengths and needs so they can plan activities which challenge each of them. We all work very hard enabling all the children in our care to discover what is finest in themselves, to achieve high standards in their studies, in their play, and in their character. Our exceptional teachers and staff guide your children to the full realization of their potential.

The staff and I encourage you to walk through our halls and ask questions. Observe the creativity, discovery, happiness and cooperation as you go. You will see that what makes GSS such a great school is our commitment to educating the whole child.

*Jane Edson*  
*Director Good Samaritan School*