

Dr. Keller's Blog  
Monday, June 15, 2009

Wasn't that a wonderful opening ceremony yesterday? Jessica played extremely well and on short notice and got us off to a great start. Dr. Satterfield told us (as if we didn't know already) how gifted and talented the students are. President Westmoreland was kind enough to give up part of a Sunday afternoon to welcome all guests to Samford. Representative DeMarco threatened to give politicians a good name by keeping his remarks short while being inspirational at the same time. And Kendell and Fowler whetted the appetites of the students by telling them about what they can expect at AGS. The rain even held off for our outdoor reception. The students had some free time before dinner followed by a short orientation session.

Today the students will go to both of their classes for the first time. The faculty love being with the AGS students, and many of them sacrifice their time (some their vacation time!) to work with the students. One professor told me he may postpone some surgery because he looks forward to his AGS class every year.

After dinner, half of the students will attend a seminar led by Dr. Kim Crockard. Dr. Crockard is a former director of AGS and now has an educational consultant business here in Birmingham. She works with students to help them choose a college, to find scholarships, and to present themselves professionally during college and scholarship interviews. Dr. Crockard prefers working in small groups, so the other half of the group will meet with her tomorrow. This should be a valuable session for the students!

George Keller