



Dear Parents and Guardians,  
Happy New Year!

We are shaken by the events in Washington, DC, last week on Wednesday. We, as a country, are the beacon of democracy for the entire world, and our democracy was attacked by rioters in the same way as it was over 200 years ago. However, our democracy prevailed. Our Congress reaffirmed the US Constitution by certifying the results from the presidential election.

As educators, we are aware of our responsibilities and that education plays a central role in promoting democratic values. Therefore, we will strengthen our commitment to educating the whole child that will uphold democracy and respect the consequences of the democratic process and the rule of law. We urge all our parents to commit to being part of our effort of instilling our children with knowledge and character to defend our democracy and strengthen our union as a nation moving forward.

Coupled with Covid-19, these challenges also bring opportunities to revitalize our core values we tend to forget in our daily routines, such as community spirit, unity, charity, mindfulness, etc. While each of us finds a way to get through this period of challenges, it is significantly easier when we are all united and work together for the common good. Nowadays, we have two primary goals to accomplish: (a) promote our unity as a nation, and (b) mindful of the needs of people around us. When accomplished, these goals will take us to the next level: from our small community level to the national level.

As we finished 2020 with significant challenges in

every area possible, there are enough reasons to be hopeful. With the advent of the Covid-19 vaccine, hope arises that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and changes are coming. However, please keep in mind that we are not done with Covid-19, and Covid-19 is not done with us yet. We, as a whole, will continue to be vigilant about the physical and emotional well-being of every member of our community until these challenges are overcome.

Speaking of our students' education, we are almost done with the second marking period. While being significantly challenged, we continue to provide a means of education tailored to the unique needs of each student. I kindly remind you once again that it is more important than ever before that we fulfill our shared responsibility of supporting one another and elevating our community as a whole. With that, I conclude my remarks and wish all of you a happy new year in 2021!

Dr. Namik Sercan  
Chief Education Officer

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Monday, 1/18** Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

### **VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE DATES/All Grades**

*(For prospective students and their families)*

Saturday, February 6, 2021, 10 am

Thursday, February 11, 2021, 6:30 pm

Sunday, February 21, 2021, 4 pm

*A Zoom link will be posted on our website.*

### **K-2 Dress-Up Days**

Tuesday, January 19

Dress like you live in the 80's!

Tuesday, February 2

Dress like you live in the 90's!