



May 22, 2020

Dear Parents and Friends of Japhet School,

It's true: we've come a long way since March 13th when a new set of social rules were announced for our safety -- social distancing, distance teaching and learning, and "stay home, stay safe." It took a while for those ways of life to settle in, and when they did, we adjusted, and it became our new way of living. Now we're embarking on the next steps of the loosening of these guidelines and perhaps being able to safely join together in small groups. Thank you, Japhet community, for your loyalty to Japhet's mission and the trust you have placed in our teachers and staff. I believe that Japhet School was poised to meet this challenge of distance teaching and learning head-on. We are a "small but mighty" team of educators and are certainly dedicated to our mission.

As we enter the last few weeks of school instruction, there are many end-of-year Japhet School traditions to come. It's been my goal for Japhet School to do its very best to maintain these traditions although we're not in our school building. I hope you will take advantage of these virtual events and our first-ever Graduation Parade in our parking lot.

My efforts and attention have been focused on bringing the very best to our students these last few weeks of school. However, my eye has also been looking to the future and just what the start of our 2020-2021 school year may look like. In complete transparency, there are many questions that need answers. As more information comes forward from necessary sources, appropriate decisions will be made for our upcoming school year. You may hear of other school districts sharing their plans for the fall. I can assure you that whatever educational plan is in place in the fall for our students, they will be safe and secure and have the very best instruction. Please stay tuned for more information from me in the near future.

I wish each one of you a very safe and healthy Memorial Day weekend. In the spirit of honoring those on Memorial Day, I share the following:

From Eleanor Roosevelt ~ "Freedom makes a huge requirement of every human being. With freedom comes responsibility."

From John F. Kennedy ~ "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them."

Most sincerely,

Kerri G. Vizena
Head of School