



August 2020

Dear Japhet School Parents,

Welcome to our 2020-2021 school year ~ I'm truly filled with gratitude that Japhet School will be opening our doors on Wednesday, September 9th, for our first day of school! It has been a journey to get to this point and I thank each one of you who has shared your thoughts, support, and concerns with me. We have enjoyed heartfelt conversations that have strengthened our partnership in education. Faculty and staff have been actively preparing for our students' arrival, and we look forward to learning about their summer activities and experiences. There will be many new safety protocols in place, so please take the time to familiarize yourself with all of them. It is important that you read all communications from administration and teachers so you are able to stay current on information.

The summer was devoted to professional development and planning to prepare for the safety of our students and teachers. Our faculty and administration collectively and individually gained pertinent information to educate and protect our students ~ and we will continue to stay current as additional information becomes available. This is essential to building a strong foundation for our Japhet learning experience.

To those new to Japhet School, the entire school community welcomes you and your family to an enriching school environment. Japhet's mission is to nurture and prepare each child for life by integrating character education with a strong academic program. The character qualities for this year are reliability, judgment, patriotism, joy, industry, humility, peace, thrift, and personal habits.

*"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character -- that is the goal of true education."* Martin Luther King, Jr.

The attached papers provide important information for starting the new school year. I am pleased to share that all teachers and staff will be returning with the exception of Nancy Flores, Spanish teacher, who has retired. She will be missed and I know you join me in sending her our best wishes. Middle Class teacher Christine Pray, who speaks Spanish fluently, will serve as interim Spanish teacher until a permanent teacher is hired.

In this email you will find final registration forms. The **TPA** and **Child Information Form** were already emailed to you, and were due last Monday, August 24 -- thank you for completing those! **The first payment is due September 1. All other forms are due September 2.**

Please know that we're here for you. Due to our enhanced health and safety protocols, please call ahead to the office prior to entering the building. I ask that you familiarize yourself with our *Parent Handbook* and *On-campus Learning Plan: Health and Safety Protocols*, both online. This will ensure that we build a strong partnership and work toward our common goal of maintaining the health and safety of our students, teachers, and staff.

As your Head of School, I look forward to another exciting school year and experiencing together new educational opportunities! I look forward to meeting each one of you and working together towards the goal of your child(ren)'s progress and success. Indeed, I'm grateful for your commitment to Japhet School.

Sincerely,

Kerri G. Vizena  
Head of School