

December 3, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you and your family are well and staying safe. As we move through this holiday season, please know how thankful we are to have you as part of our TECS family! We wish we could all be together in school as normal, but as the pandemic continues to grow, it does not allow for that to happen. We are thinking of all of our families and are always here if you need us.

We have been continuing to monitor the State of Delaware COVID-19 data and unfortunately the numbers according to the Delaware Department of Public Health (DPH) are getting increasingly worse, not better. On Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Delaware hit an all-time high (since the pandemic began in March) of 754 new positive cases in one day. Today, in Governor Carney's press release, he announced a new Stay-at-Home advisory and recommended that schools continue virtual learning. Therefore, for the safety and well-being of all of our students, staff and families, we have made the very difficult decision to continue the 2020-2021 school year with full remote learning from home.

Although it is not ideal to be teaching and learning from home, we know that with the continued uncertainty of COVID-19, this is the safest and smartest choice. Not one student, family or staff member has had to worry about contracting the virus because they have been forced to come into the school building. At this time, we expect to be fully online until (at least) **February 1, 2021** due to the spike in cases after the new year, as predicted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We were hoping and praying that we would be able get the students and staff in the building and back to normal much sooner, but it is just not safe to do.

We would like to thank you for supporting the school and your children through these very trying times and this difficult holiday season. No matter how challenging this Coronavirus may be, our focus will always be on keeping you, your children, and our staff members safe and healthy. Not one life in our school or community is worth losing to COVID-19. We will continue to think about you and pray for your family during this holiday season and are committed to doing all we can to make sure that your children are successful. Again, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you need anything to help you while you are at home, and thanks for your continued support of our school.

Sincerely,



Salome Thomas-EL  
Principal



Elizabeth Yates  
Assistant Principal