

### Letter from Board Trustee, Ray Miley 6-1-20

Dear Families in the Island Park School District:

Good morning and let us gladly welcome June in with open arms!

I will keep this letter very short avoiding the risk of being redundant with the many letters you have read throughout the last several weeks.

I think today should be a day to celebrate our children! They deserve an extra hug and an abundance of love and encouragement today and everyday. As I watched a couple of kids in the street in front of my house have a catch with a baseball yesterday, it reminded me of my childhood being outside playing ball from dawn until dusk all summer long! It made me ponder what I would have done as a child if I was forced to social distance from my friends for an extended period. I am sure that I would not have been happy about it at all!

I was also inspired by a child in my school this weekend. I have a student from India who was just enrolled in my school and I just helped his parents set him up on [Google classroom](#) about a week or so ago. This child is 13 years old and has never been in school before. He has a diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy and Quadriparesis and is an English Language Learner. He is an amazing child with a beautiful smile on his face all the time. All weekend long I heard a beeping from my iPad as he and his parents submitted another completed lesson. They were sending me videos showing me how he communicates and they were trying to [help him](#) complete all activities that he missed. They just wanted me to know how smart and special their child is ... [as if](#) I truly do know that already! I am so looking forward to meeting this child in person when we finally return to the school building for school.

So please celebrate your children today and let them know how wonderful they are just because they are themselves. Remember every child is wonderful and unique! There never was anyone exactly like them before and there never will be anyone exactly like them again!

Enjoy the last couple of weeks of remote learning and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Ray Miley  
School Board Trustee