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Dear Middle School Parents:

I would like to thank all who commented for your positive feedback regarding my remarks last week on community members staging parties and large social gatherings. To put middle school teachers, staff, and students at risk due to celebrating in a large group is contrary to the essence of a community itself. Safe social gatherings will also facilitate the opportunity for more in-person learning as we move forward.

The learning experience at TMS this past month also involves the burden of quarantine due to exposure. It is a heavy burden on mothers, fathers, and children, and it is very unfortunate for those spending Thanksgiving separated from their families so their family members can be safe. There is very little data published on those forced to quarantine. It is obviously exponential versus the infection rate and so frequently minimized; the social-emotional toll should not be.

The teachers are finalizing first marking period grades. We thank the teachers and parents for their support during the quarter. Grades will be published on the portal before the holiday break.

This Monday, Cohort B is in school and Cohort A is virtual. The block schedule for the day is periods one, two, five, six and three. Tuesday, Cohort A is in school and Cohort B is virtual. The periods are four, seven, five, six and eight. Wednesday, Cohort B will be in school and Cohort A is virtual. The periods are one and two as we have an early dismissal on Wednesday at 10:54 am.

Next week is week six as is also the week of November 30. This will give more balance to the schedule.

On that note, I wish you and your family a happy and safe Thanksgiving Holiday. I am grateful for the support of our middle school parents, and our heroic teachers and staff who support our TMS students each day.

Best Regards,

Dr. Bart Linehan