December 7, 2020 

Good Morning Judah Families and Happy Monday

I hope all of you enjoyed your weekends as the hustle and bustle of the holiday season has certainly begun. After speaking with some family back east about the snow they were gifted with this past weekend, I couldn’t help but reflect on my youth and walking the snow-covered neighborhood with friends trying to earn some money by shoveling driveways for our neighbors. My mom was very good to establish that work ethic at a very young age.

**FRP**Recently I have received a few emails regarding the state of the district and the potential receivership from the state. I don’t have much to information about this. What I can see for certain, is that our enrollment has dropped and in addition, our attendance average is lower than in the past. These are two components that will impact our school funding and programs as well as those across the district. This week’s SCUSD Board Meeting on Thursday evening, which you can [watch live](https://www.scusd.edu/post/watch-meeting-live), will teach us a lot about how the Board intends to proceed with the Fiscal Recovery Plan. Note on the [Board Meeting Agenda](https://www.scusd.edu/sites/main/files/file-attachments/6_12-10-20_agenda_v9.pdf) that the FRP discussion is not slated to begin until about 8:30pm, however just prior at 7:45pm, there will be a presentation of the district’s first interim budget report and an update from the Financial Crisis Management Team that you may find of interest as well. The accompanying [Board Agenda Packet](https://www.scusd.edu/sites/main/files/file-attachments/combined_12-10-20.pdf) contains impact statements from every impacted site and program. with discussion of the FRP beginning on page 354.

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent Conferences are in full swing. Please check class schedules carefully to ensure your child is present and engaged during all expected learning times. And parents, please double-check your parent-teacher conference time slot and be on time to the Zoom so your child’s teacher can share as many details with you as possible during your allocated time. If you’d like to have a conference and don’t yet have one scheduled or don’t remember when you signed up, please reach out directly to your child’s teacher.

**SEL DECEMBER TRAIT (PERSERVERANCE)**

As we continue our focus on Perseverance in December, I encourage you all to educate yourselves about our district’s current financial strains and thoughtfully consider the facts in order to take action. Yes, we need to advocate for our programs and students, but every child in our district deserves a quality school and access to programs and supports that meet their needs. The way to ensure equitable access is for our district and labor leaders to reach an agreement that resolves our structural deficit and eliminates the likelihood of a state takeover. Your voices, and the voices of our children, matter.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION (6th GRADE FAMILIES)**

 As stated in previous messages It’s time to start thinking about middle school. At this point, you need to do two things. First, find out what your neighborhood school is. Sixth graders are automatically enrolled in their middle school of residence. If you’d like your child to attend a school other than your school of residence, you will need to participate in the open enrollment process in February. And second, visit the websites of the middle schools in which you’re interested and check out their virtual tours. Future enrollment is based on your primary residence on file. Please feel free to email me with any questions about middle school enrollment.

Attached you will find a flyer that I received from Sutter Middle School regarding their information meetings that will be done virtually this year. Also, in the next few weeks, CAL Middle will be visiting our 6th graders in their classrooms virtually to discuss their programs as well.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

This a virtual event taking place this year with 25% of proceed coming back to the school to purchase Scholastic News magazines for our next school year. Books are great stocking stuffers. Please use the link provided to place your orders from 12/7- 12/18. The link provided has the wrong dates so please ignore.

[Scholastic Book Fair Link](https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=theodorejudahelemschool)

**JUDAH SPIRIT WEAR**

2020 Judah spirit wear is here and you can order your new apparel by clicking on the link below. I have already picked out my new hoodie and can’t wait to show it off.

[TJ Spirit Wear Link](https://tjbears.orderpromos.com/)

**SONG FOR YOUR WEEK (ENJOY)**

[**You Got a Friend (James Taylor)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xEkIou3WFnM)

LOL (Lots of Love)

Troy Holding

Principal