



October 9, 2020

Happy Friday Amazing Judah Families:

I can't believe it is already the middle of October. I struggle to share much with you this week as I don't have any updates other than what has been shared on the district website. Please continue to visit there for any "Return to Learning" information at www.scusd.edu.

We are currently in the process of posting for a new office clerk at Judah. Mrs. Perez has since resigned from her position and we are grateful for her work and the time she spent at our little neighborhood school. Once we have filled that position, I will introduce our new office clerk to our school community.

On October 6th, I couldn't help but to reflect upon where I was when Mathew Sheppard was brutally beaten 22 years ago for simply being gay, and tied to a fence and left to die the middle of nowhere. He was so badly beaten that his whole body was covered in blood except for two white lines going down his face from his dried tears. Every October, schools and organizations across the country join in observing National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal is to work together to prevent Bullying and Cyberbullying by bringing awareness to the occurrence and effects of bullying on children of all ages. Theodore Judah educators will be including anti-bullying activities at school throughout their virtual classrooms this month as well as showing videos that I have provided them. October 21st is national Unity Day, and I am inviting all students to wear something orange to class that day to stand up and unite together against bullying and celebrate a more inclusive and diverse school community. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

In addition, I am attaching some communication that I have shared over the years regarding the challenges of social media and the impact it has on schools. This is not new information as it is a repost from prior years. I again ask you to be mindful of the content that is being posted to pages that have been established. I am not here to judge or reprimand in any way, but if there are pages that are titled with our school initials or name, I want to be clear, that views and opinions are not necessarily those of the school as a whole. It has always been my understanding that these pages have been established to celebrate the good from programs being provided to our young scholars and provide support for all and not to be used for personal opinions or agendas.

In closing, I continue to thank you for allowing us to intrude into your homes. The home/school connection is much more important now as we continue to establish school norms and procedures while attempting to align with what you have already established at home. Through it all, I ask that you remember to take time for you. Balance the moment of your day. Hobbies matter. Nurture your body with self-care and delicious foods. Make it a habit to celebrate yourself each day. If you need any supports or resources, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are Judah! We are strong! We are all in this together!

Respectfully,
Dr. Troy Holding
Proud Principal