



Principal Welcome Back Letter 2020-21

Dear Families

As we plan for the beginning like no other we have seen in the past, our focus will still be to ensure that:

- Every child, every day is finding a way to feel **connected**.
- Every child, every day is being **challenged** by new learning and experiences.
- Every child, every day knows they have a **champion** they can turn to.

Spring of 2020 has challenged staff and students to find a new normal for learning, connected us in new ways and required our champions to champion from afar. What I have most learned through this process is how much I appreciate the expertise our teachers bring to Judah, the ways in which our students continue to work hard to grow and overall, appreciation for the little things in life-giving a High Five, a hug or being able to laugh out loud with many people around. What I MOST appreciate about Judah is how even under circumstances we have never experienced, we are still a learning and caring community.

Normal is such a simple word and it is our goal at Judah to not only find our new normal, but to use this time as a learning experience that will forever impact the learning environment at Judah. Each week teachers are piloting this journey through a Universal Design Framework to attend to the variability of all our learners. Our fall may not be “normal” but our learning will not only continue, but will thrive. We can’t wait to reconnect and to move on to the next phase of learning under Covid-19 and we know, all returning and new scholars will be welcomed with open arms (virtually) to our community- we will continue to grow!

Judah is a small neighborhood school with many opportunities, which is why many of you entrust us with the education of your children. Thank you for standing by us, thank you for your grace and patience. Our staff, district and parents prides itself in ensuring that our students continue to have extra-curricular opportunities that include Art, Music, Science and Garden ALIVE throughout this whole new “normal”. We are committed to maintaining the highest standards so that there will be no shortage of opportunities for your child to feel challenged and connected on a daily basis with high quality on-line instruction and have a wide variety of option to get connected to their school and fellow students.

Communication between home and school is critical during this time when circumstances can change overnight. I will do my best to provide information via email, robo-call and school website so please be sure your information is updated at all times. Always remember that your child’s teacher is your first means of contact. Please contact Kayla Weldon at kayla-weldon@scusd.edu to update all contact information. In addition, please refer to the district website COVID-19 and Distant Learning “Return Together” updates at: <https://returntogether.scusd.edu/>.

This school year will be a new journey for all of us, but please know that we are committed to keep all stakeholders healthy and safe while we navigate through these uncharted waters together. Please click on the link that I have provided for Parent Tips for On-line Learning. [Parent On-line Learning Tips](#). I look forward to another great year with you and your amazing children!

Respectfully,
Dr. Troy Holding