November 18, 2019

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are over a quarter of our way through the school year. For me, traditionally November has been synonymous with giving thanks. This year I have much to be thankful for. My family continues to support me as I have undertaken the responsibilities of my new role. I am surrounded by talented and dedicated teachers who continue to amaze me with their displays of love towards the students in our building. And I am in awe of our students and the work they are engaged in day in and day out.

As I think about all the things I am thankful for, many memories of Thanksgiving holidays from my past creep into my mind. I think about my grandmother and all of the wonderful foods she would cook. I think about my sisters and our antics as we waited all day to eat. And I think about all of the years that we spent with other families because my mom would be on call at the hospital where she worked. My culture, and the traditions from it, helped to shape me into who I am today. It is along this vein that I invite you to join us as we celebrate all of the cultures that make us who we are as a school community.

Please join us for our 1st annual Wilkins Around the World celebration this Thursday, November 21, 2019 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. People are invited to share a favorite food from their culture or family traditions, but this is not required. All food taste tasting will in the cafeteria. Each guest will also be given a passport that will provide details of what is offered this evening. There will be several workshops and displays available for guests. We will have Native American dance, henna tattoos, Chinese writing, Russian dolls and their history, Haitian jewelry making, Irish step dancing, Cape Verdean weaving, Brazilian Capoeira and mask making, and much more! We hope that you will make this part of your November traditions.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, take a moment to think about all that you are thankful for, and take some time to give to those less fortunate than you. In recognition of the Thanksgiving holiday, schools will close at 11:45am on Wednesday, November 27, 2019 and will reopen at 8:00am on Monday, December 2, 2019.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving,

Mrs. Monahan