



## January 7, 2022: Still Grateful in the New Year

Dear CDS Community,

As I mentioned this morning during Friday Assembly, we are in a very different time than we were just a few weeks ago. Our community has worked hard to care for each other and I'm looking forward to more learning, more laughter in the hallways and on the yard, and the opportunity to be back together socially very soon.

We are working on a plan to provide **PCR testing on Tuesday** to our entire student body and staff (with results available the next morning). The goal is to broaden this plan with drop-in testing so that CDS families and other members of our external community can use this resource. I apologize for the short notice, but over the weekend you will receive information about this. Things are evolving quickly and I appreciate our nimbleness and flexibility. We are also working to source more rapid tests and if we are successful, we will update the change in protocols.

CDS adults: we also expect that you will share your child's vaccination status with us via the directions we shared on Wednesday in the Coop. This will help us with our isolation and quarantine protocols. I know this is a stressful time and I appreciate how we are working together to keep our community safe.

Almost a year ago, like many of our community, I was struck by the wisdom and passion of Amanda Gorman during the inauguration. She has graced us with another poem as we start 2022, called [New Day's Lyric](#). We shared it this morning but we know not everyone can attend the assembly, and I want to share it again here. I find her poem to be inspiring and grounding, as it reminds us that together, forever...we will overcome.

We know that the Zoom experience is nowhere near the real thing. However, we always appreciate the many remarks that are shared via chat during our assemblies and other meetings. This morning, we asked the question *What is something you have learned or something you are grateful for in this new year?* Below are just some of the responses.

Let us close today with the joy of learning and the hope of a community staying together.

- *We're grateful for Rico and all his contributions and hard work!*
- *I'm grateful for the positivity this community brings to CDS, even when the outside world doesn't feel so positive.*
- *Learning and getting better at multiplication.*
- *This Friday morning ritual!*
- *Vaccines, family, and Friday dance parties!*
- *Hawks students say "our teachers" (we didn't make them say that!)*
- *Grateful for the CDS community persisting through Covid.*
- *Grateful for all my amazing coworkers! I feel so blessed to know and work alongside you all.*
- *Being together with classmates again! :)*
- *Grateful for essential workers.*
- *People who invented soccer and basketball.*
- *Grateful for the COVID vaccine for kids and adults.*
- *For school and the things we have.*
- *Our friends and teammates.*
- *Our families.*
- *I am thankful for being allowed another day to get it right.*
- *The Hummingbirds are grateful for being here and healthy today.*
- *I'm grateful for my family.*
- *Whoever invented Pokémon cards!*
- *Grateful for George's entertaining style choices.*
- *The Quails are grateful for life, for vaccines, and gymnastics!*
- *Access to healthy food and clean water.*
- *I'm grateful for my cat.*
- *I'm grateful for the play structure.*
- *I'm grateful for all the teachers and friends in our community.*

Warmly,  
Shelly