



July 5, 2018: A Welcome Note from Shelly

Dear CDS Community,

It has been so wonderful settling back into our hometown the past few weeks. Our shipment has arrived from Asia and we are excited to be moving back to the familiar with the added benefit of becoming part of the wonderful CDS community. Already you have welcomed us in so many ways, and our visit in February was filled with connections and positive anticipation. Our boys were welcomed by teachers and students and we all feel that the move is “right” on so many levels.

In particular, the “rightness” of the move is tied to the strongly evident values of CDS. Personally and professionally, I have always been committed to social justice, the appreciation of diversity, and the responsibility of inclusion. The opportunity to support the next generations in understanding their place in the world and the obligation to make the world better are things that I take to heart every day. Students are the key to our future, and we can best develop them by helping them notice opportunities and injustices and then giving them skills to take action.

There are so many things that excite me about CDS. For one, I am very eager to participate in the farm and garden program this summer and meet Sunny and Frisco. Chickens are important to me professionally because they represent an authentic, hands-on, experiential learning opportunity as well as a commitment to sustainability. These two concepts are critical to what I see as life skills for our learners.

I am also excited about the ‘Elevating St. Joseph’s Hall’ construction project at 333 Dolores which is moving right along. In fact, it is close to one-third completed after the first five weeks of work. The school was recently awarded a \$200,000 grant from the William G. Irwin Charity Foundation, bringing the total raised for ‘Elevating St. Joseph’s Hall’ to \$2.25 million. We know that this important work will

modernize St. Joseph's Hall and make it accessible and welcoming for our current and future students.

I am happy to write to you today as the new Head of School. And, as a family, we are thrilled to be joining the community and we look forward to getting to know you all in the coming months.

Fondly,
Shelly

