

August 14, 2020

Dear 12th Grade Parents/Guardians:

Schools are special places, and when a school is functioning as it should, it enriches the lives of everyone connected to it. A student's senior year can be the best one of their high school career. It is the grade when they complete their adolescence, the grade that fully launches them into young adulthood, and for many students, senior year is when many things that have been up in the air finally fall into place. They start to get more clarity about who they are, who they want to become, and how to get there. It is an exciting prospect. Their 12th-grade school year will be unlike any other. I believe challenges bring the opportunity for triumphs, and my hope is that for all of us—you, your child, me, and everyone who is a part of George Stevens Academy—this year will be one of the very best years of school we have ever had, even under such unusual circumstances

I trust you have been getting the emails I have been sending out with information related to the opening of school. If you have any questions, please email me, or call the school at (207) 374-2808, and we will get you answers. This mailing includes paperwork to be filled out, dates to be noted, and the like. Please read everything carefully and take care of whatever requires action on your part. There is a great deal of information here; becoming familiar with it will help you help your child have the best possible year at GSA.

The 12th-grade year is important because it directly sets students up for the next stage of their lives. For our seniors who plan to go to college, the academic record they compile in the fall and winter will be an important part of the applications they present. For those who plan to take another route, this coming year may be the last year of their formal schooling (at least for a while), and the work habits they form here will have lasting impact. Whatever your child's plans, our desire is to make this year as productive, full of growth, and as fun as possible. If you ever have a question or concern, or just want to chat about your child, please call us or stop by. Our goal at GSA is to be exceptional in all we do, every day. If we fall short, please let me know.

The first day of school for all 12th graders is Tuesday, Sept. 8. They will be the only students on campus that day, and we will run a special program designed to get them ready together for school—going over health and safety plans, distributing their laptops, giving them training on Canvas our new online learning system, giving them time with their advisors and teachers, and doing community-building activities. More information will be forthcoming. **Please make sure students dress comfortably and bring a water bottle with them.**

Educators have the great honor and pleasure of being a part of young people's lives and development. I am excited to have the chance to get to know your child more over the coming year. Enjoy the rest of the summer. Thank you for sharing your child with us.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Seeley
Head of School