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Dear HOPE Families and Staff,

I hope you all were able to spend some quality time with your loved ones this past weekend! It is not the same family gatherings as we have had in the past. However, I am grateful that my family members are safe and healthy, and hope that your family is too.

Right before Winter Break, a short survey went out to all HOPE families asking for parent input on the learning model. At the same time, we also gathered input from our staff. I want to thank each and everyone of you who took the time to respond to our survey as well as provided your thoughts into this very important decision. The Administration Team reviewed the data collected from the survey. There was a total of 220 respondents, both online and phone calls. The majority of our parents support the continuation of the Distance Learning model (64%), while 15% supported the hybrid model and 21% chose the in-person model. We had a very lengthy discussion, reviewing all areas that would impact our students and their learning. It was not an easy decision to make as we all know that having our children back in the school building is the best. However, considering that the COVID cases in Ramsey County is still high (96.42 from 11/29-12/12/20 from the MDH 14-day case rate range) and the input from you our parents, **HOPE will continue with the Distance Learning Model.** We will continue to monitor the situation and may make changes as appropriate. When that happens, we will be sure to inform you all immediately with a plan to implement.

There are few changes that we are making to improve our support for you and your families. We will start having weekly conversations with parents and staff twice a week (once during the day and once in the evening) about anything you would like to discuss. We want to hear from you and to work with you on how we can continue to better serve you and your children. Our instructional team are continuing to identify different ways that your children can also help out at home. For example, activities that the older children can do with their younger siblings. HOPE has purchased some activities that will be sent home for your children to do together. More information will come out once we finalized the details.

Again, as always, thank you so much for your continued support of HOPE and our children!

Maychy Vu
Executive Director