



From the desk of **KIMBERLY A. DESOTELL** President, GRACE

August 14, 2020

Dear GRACE Community:

All GRACE teachers return to school next week on Tuesday, August 18, to formally prepare for the opening of our schools this fall. While many of our teachers have been in and out of the buildings over the summer and participated in planning, professional development and training, we are excited to come together as a family next week.

Our teachers will find their schools very different from when they left in March. The days of in-service prior to student arrival will be filled with a variety of formal planning and readiness tasks. Some of the teachers' tasks that will be accomplished over the next week include:

- Health and safety training
- Classroom set up with furnishing adjustments to promote social distancing as well as amenities to ensure joy-filled classroom environments
- Lesson planning and review of curricular materials
- Review and training of new textbook in Social Studies, Literacy and Religion
- Faith development and prayer reflection to acknowledge our many blessings
- Technology professional development
- And much, much more

In essence, our teachers will work together as a team to prepare for the children during this special and unique time.

I wish to share with you our sincere appreciation for Prevea Health, our healthcare partner, for its direction, guidance and support to ensure a safe reopening for our schools. On Monday, our principals and administrative assistants will participate in training conducted by the Brown County Public Health Department. The agenda includes disease surveillance and communication protocols, as well as walking through scenarios. These combined efforts from our local medical experts help us to feel confident and prepared for the weeks ahead.

In closing, the Lord has blessed each of us and called us to a responsibility to help others in time of need. GRACE is encountering a significant increase in requests for tuition assistance as many of our families are experiencing hardships and challenges as a result of the pandemic. These are extraordinary times in which we ask our GRACE community to prayerfully consider a financial donation to help other families maintain affordability of private tuition. If you have it in your heart to give or wish to support a family in the form of financial aid, donations can be made online at www.gracesystem.org/donate or by contacting our Development Office at 920-499-7330, ext. 313.

Thank you to parents and donors who have generously supported tuition assistance scholarships already this year, and we thank you for considering this as we prepare and progress toward the start of the new academic year together.

In Christ,

Kimberly A. Desotell
President, GRACE