Welcome Lions and families to the 2020-21 school year!

To our returning students and families we’ve missed you! And to our new students and families welcome home! Our virtual halls and our hearts are looking forward to reconnecting and connecting with each of you. While we find ourselves about to embark on a new chapter and a new way of learning in our history at Saint Martin, we are mindful of the current health and historical context with which we return to school this fall.

Last week’s shooting of Jacob Blake, the resulting protests, and the NBA boycott serve as yet another reminder of just how much progress we as a nation still have to make to ensure the inalienable rights of all our students, families, faculty, and staff. At Saint Martin, we acknowledge and embrace that this struggle means we must look within ourselves and our school not just to prevent inequities but rather to disrupt them. This pursuit ensures we meet our mission of graduating students who are college ready, career prepared, and possessing the belief that they can and should impact the world. We know this will be hard work and are committed to it because we believe in the inherent dignity of all our students, their families, and your God-given talents. Collectively, and individually we know and trust that we will prevail.

We have been working throughout the summer to prepare and equip ourselves for a school year that is both similar and different from those of the past. Similar to other school years, we will have new classes, new teachers, a work study program, and the chance to reset and recommit to who we are and what we want to become. Different though in how we will approach our work - starting remotely and without the added benefit of face-to-face instruction and work. Yet we will prevail!

We are excited for this gift of time to train our lions in the skills and knowledge needed to ensure they are college ready and career prepared. This school year will present many unique challenges, some of which we experienced in the spring and have learned from, others will be new. One of the key lessons we’ve learned is that within each challenge is an opportunity. The opportunity to try new things. The opportunity to follow the advice of Maya Angelou to “stand up straight and realize who you are, [and] that you tower over your circumstances”. The opportunity to recommit to our values and rethink how we approach our work. The opportunity to find success in past experiences and apply them to today’s dilemmas. The opportunity to commit to systemic change and individual self improvement.

Be assured that God is infusing his grace and mercy into this school year, and our lives. Be reassured that despite all the ups and downs ahead of us, God is empowering and surrounding us with His love and molding us into a one-of-a-kind beautiful creation. Like only The Master Teacher can.

In Faith and Progress,

Adam Trifiro                      Shameka Jones Taylor
Interim Principal               Vice President for Corporate Work Study