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May 30, 2020

Greetings ICSD Community,

I am writing this week with a heavy heart and a challenge for our school community. The violence and oppressive events highlighted in the media this week have underscored the importance of our district's equity and inclusion efforts. It is imperative that we find ways to engage in constant self-reflection, constructive conflict, and changes to our systems and our policies. As we engage with one another, and as we prepare to reopen in the fall, I ask that we collaboratively design our learning environments to be *liberating for all*.

With the school year ending on June 16, 2020, our culminating experiences will begin on June 8, 2020. Our approach to ensuring closure to this academic year includes providing opportunities for students to complete work and connect with teachers, as well as providing opportunities for review and celebration of learning. Each grade level and school may take slightly different approaches, as always, and we are asking educators to 1) use their professional judgment, 2) be flexible, and 3) be responsive to family and student needs. You can find more information [here on our Culminating Experiences webpage](#), and you will also hear more specific information regarding these final days from your children's schools and teachers.

As I have written previously, this year, school district budget votes and Board of Education elections in New York State will occur strictly through [absentee ballot](#). For all ICSD registered voters, you will receive a paper ballot, along with a stamped, addressed envelope to mail or drop off at 400 Lake Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. Whether by mail or drop-off, *all ballots must be received no later than June 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.* For more information about the budget, please [visit our Budget Development page](#).

Many have tuned in to our ICSD 2.0 Webinar Series and we are grateful for your engagement. We have held an impressive series of sessions with ICSD educators, who have shared their experiences, thoughts, and expertise. We will be joined by more on Monday, June 1 at 4:00. Please visit [this link](#) for more information on how to sign up via Webex.

I appreciate your engagement with us on the [Let'sTalk portal](#) and ask that you continue to share with us. I humbly thank you all.

Regards,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D.
Superintendent