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Greetings ICSD Community,

I have been humbled by the work of our community these past few weeks. Our students, educators, and families are continuing to engage in deep reflection and shift their work and practices to become actively anti-racist. Most profound, perhaps, have been the conversations with our young people, who are eager for change. As we enter and re-enter these difficult conversations together, whilst changing policies and practices, we must remember a phrase I often use: conflict is inevitable, but the combat is optional.

We have begun conversations with our ICSD team members this week around our reopening plan, entitled "Reopen ICSD," and will continue these conversations with [families/caregivers](#) and [students](#) next week. Please sign up if you have not done so yet; we look forward to engaging with you all. As we look ahead to reopening, we are doing so through a lens of anti-racism, and are organizing our planning into four pillars: culture, physical and environmental health and safety, social-emotional and academic learning, and communication. We understand that the reopening scenarios for which we are planning will be largely dictated by Governor Cuomo and COVID-19, however, we also know that our community must explore these options and the logistics associated with them earlier rather than later. For an overview of Reopen ICSD, please visit our [website](#). We are grateful for your participation and support as we rethink our school district in this new era.

The upcoming [ICSD Budget Vote and School Board Election](#) is being conducted by absentee ballot. Although we are no longer permitted to receive completed ballots returned in person to our Board Building, voters may still mail them. The Governor has extended the deadline for us to receive ballots returned by mail to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16. We very much appreciate your participation in this important budget vote and election.

As always, we welcome conversation through the [Let's Talk portal](#). Thank you for your continued support for our young people.

Regards,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D.  
Superintendent