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June 20, 2020

Greetings ICSD Community,

Congratulations to our students, staff and families for completing the academic school year in the midst of exceptional and unimaginable circumstances. Also, happy holiday weekend, as we celebrate Juneteenth and Father's Day.

I am also deeply proud of our seniors at Ithaca High School and Lehman Alternative Community School. In spite of the disruptions due to COVID-19, our graduates exemplify the spirit of the Ithaca City School District and have realized our vision of 6000+ Thinkers. Our recent graduates are leaders who are sharing their extraordinary talents, curiosity, and a willingness to make impactful change in our society. Well done Class of 2020!

I wish to thank all who voted in this year's budget and Board of Education elections. The passage of the 2020-2021 budget will provide us with the resources needed to engage, educate, and empower. In addition, our community is very fortunate to have Sean Evesely Bradwell, Chris Malcolm, and Patricia Wasyliw elected to three-year terms on the Board of Education. Their volunteer service along with their Board members colleagues are needed during these challenging times.

Moving forward, our summer is filled with excellent programming and detailed planning for a reopening of schools that is flexible, safe, and in accordance with state guidance. We enter the summer with *hope* for the future of our schools. This hope is inspired by the reflections and calls to anti-racist action from our young people and many others throughout our community. This hope is inspired by the creativity, collaboration and determined efforts of our exceptional team of educators who strive tirelessly to meet the needs of all students in virtual and physical spaces. And, this hope is inspired by the love, dedication and partnership of our caregivers. I thank you.

Please look for communications from me this summer regarding reopening planning, instructional programs and other important information. This year has been challenging and invigorating. It is an honor to be on this journey with you.

Regards,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D.  
Superintendent