



Education Services Center. 5776 S. Crocker Street. Littleton, Colorado 80120. 303.347.3300.

January 17, 2014

Dear LPS Parents and Staff:

It was good to see everyone back at school last week following winter break. The energy level is high, and as always, it's exciting to be part of it.

While we respect and learn from our past, the district is moving forward to create our future. Kindergarten registration for all LPS elementary schools is scheduled for February 3 and 4. We are looking forward to welcoming the Class of 2027!!!

In recognition and remembrance of the events of December 13, 2013, Arapahoe High School kicked off their spring semester last Friday morning with an all-school assembly. Representatives of the Arapaho Nation from the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming were in attendance to lend their support. I continue to be impressed by the students and staff at Arapahoe High School for the strength, courage, and caring they have for one another.

The events of December 13 are still fresh in the hearts and minds of many. Recently there has been a lot of communication within our community. Some of these discussions are taking place online and are being reported through newspapers and TV stations. This is to be expected. Much of the conversation, however, is based on inaccurate information, rumor, and innuendo. I would encourage all Warriors to wait for the sheriff's investigation to come to a close before drawing conclusions. In a press release yesterday, the sheriff pointed out that his department is still in the midst of a complete investigation. As such, LPS cannot participate in public discussion of what occurred. The sheriff is the spokesperson for the investigation and is the only accurate source for information. I ask that we keep LPS strong by respecting the privacy of all in our community. Doing so will preserve the honor and integrity of our schools. We will not allow others to distract us from the important work of teaching and learning. I will continue to keep you updated of information the district can provide.

I also want to reiterate our full faith and confidence in the administrative team at Arapahoe High School. They have handled this situation with professionalism, caring, and integrity. The Arapahoe community is healing and moving forward.

Littleton Public Schools for many, many years has had a strong reputation for academic excellence. Just last month, the Colorado Department of Education awarded nine awards of academic excellence to schools in LPS. And, for the fourth year in a row, LPS earned the rating of "Accredited with Distinction." Only 10 percent of Colorado's school districts earned this top academic rating, and LPS remains the only school district in the Denver/Boulder metro area to do so. Ninety percent of our graduates are college-bound, and the Class of 2013 earned more than \$40 million in college scholarships. Our students earn top honors in the performing arts, athletics, and in competitions across all academic areas.

Littleton Public Schools is a special place in which to learn, teach, and grow because of this community's strong partnership with its schools. More importantly, we are a community that continues to support and care for one another. We look forward to an outstanding spring semester. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Scott Murphy
Superintendent