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November 25, 2020

Dear Readington School Community,

During this Thanksgiving season, I am, and will continue to be, deeply grateful to serve such an extraordinary community. Readington is a special place that has shown dedication and resilience in the face of the most challenging situation. The efforts of our staff are immeasurable beyond words and our students have exceeded expectations. Our families and parents have demonstrated unwavering support. While the year 2020 has presented our school community with many obstacles, and it is easy to focus our attention on the challenges and troubles, it can be incredibly beneficial to take time to focus on appreciating what we do have, as opposed to focusing on what we don't have, particularly during this year where we find ourselves in a global pandemic. It's true, school is not the same, our lives outside of school are rather restricted, and the ordinary day-to-day seems like a thing of the past. But we do have each other, our family and community, and for these things, we can be grateful.

In closing, I want to share a little piece by an unknown author. It is entitled, "Be Thankful" and I think it captures the spirit of Thanksgiving and of being grateful for all that we have in our lives, even those things we may find straining like the mistakes, tiredness, and setbacks. It really resonated with me, and I thought this would be an appropriate year to share. Let's do our best to look for those small (sometimes challenging) things we can appreciate in our daily lives.

With gratitude,

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Jonathan Hart, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

## Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to? Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn. Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow. Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement. Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character. Be thankful for your mistakes, they will teach you valuable lessons. Be thankful when you're tired and weary. because it means you've made a difference. It is easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks. GRATITUDE can turn a negative into a positive. Find a way to be thankful for your troubles and they can become your blessings.