



January 12, 2021

Dear Mount Vernon Christian School Community,

Happy New Year!! It is our hope that you had a joyous and peace filled Christmas Break. It was good for me to step back from the routine of school and spend some time pondering this past year and all that unfolded. It was also good to spend time working to get things reset at school for the second semester.

Four specific moments to celebrate! First, we completed one full semester of fully in person daily schooling. Second, our Christmas Coin Drive raised over \$4000 for children in need of a Christmas gift as well as essential food and clothing. Third, our end of year giving campaign raised over \$190,000 of generous financial support. Finally, last but not least, we welcome over 20 new students to MVC this semester. Praise be to God for His good gifts.

Many people have joked or commented, myself included, that we couldn't wait for 2021 and that we were ready for 2020 to be finished. Then 6 days into 2021, I heard someone refer to the date as December 37, 2020. There are two things about those comments and the events that took place. First, there is no magic date, or event, or platform designed by humanity to make everything the way it is supposed to be. Second, I am convinced now more than ever that educating our children to identify the needs around them and then training them to serve God by serving others, will offer hope to a world groaning under the weight of sin. Now more than ever, our actions will speak louder than words.

As you seek to offer your children context for the current events and you help guide them to respond in obedience as disciples of Jesus, take some time to consider the very character of God. In Exodus 34:6 God describes His character,

6 The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out,
"Yahweh![a] The Lord!
The God of compassion and mercy!
I am slow to anger
and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness."

Jesus' life and ministry demonstrated this mercy and compassion over and over. One of the most striking examples is in Mark chapter 1 when Jesus reaches out and touches the Leper and heals him.

41 Moved with compassion,[i] Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!"

I am, and forever will be, grateful for the compassion that Christ demonstrated to me as he perfectly reflected the character of God's compassion to me when I did not deserve it. Please join us as we seek to respond in gratitude and demonstrate that same compassion for our hurting world.



Here are some updates or reminders:

- We are operating at [Level Green](#) with no known cases on campus and families, faculty and staff closely adhering to MVC's safety protocols.
- We have 1 student currently in quarantine due to household exposure over Christmas Break with a return date of February 1, 2021.
- We have 2 students currently in DOH quarantine due to possible exposure at work or home as they await test results.
- We had a handful of students self quarantine after travel during Christmas Break.
- If you travel outside of the State please contact the school to ensure proper protocols upon returning. Past cooperation with this guidance has led to students quarantining prior to returning to school. During quarantine students did test positive for COVID-19 due to exposure when traveling. MVC remained in Green Status as those students did not return to school and no school exposure took place. Here is a link to the [Washington Travel Advisory](#). **PLEASE NOTE: As of January 11, 2021 Out of State Travel for Youth Sports requires notification to the school and a period of quarantine.**
- Please remember to screen your children prior to attending school **each day**. Page 7 of the [Return to School Playbook](#) has the screening questions. Please see other updates from us about underlying conditions, etc.
- We continued to have interest and applications come in throughout Christmas Break. We have limited capacity due to restrictions and we are at capacity in all grades and rooms except First Grade. We have closed all applications for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.
- We have received many inquiries for next school year and we are **moving up** the reenrollment and new applications window to accommodate the level of interest in MVC and facilitate better planning for next school year.
 - **2021-2022 New Applications will open online Tuesday, January 19, 2021.**
 - If you have a student here this year and **want to add a sibling** please complete a New Application for the sibling who currently does not attend MVC as **soon after January 19** as you are able in order to ensure a spot is available.
 - If you know of someone interested in attending MVC next school year they should go online and complete the [application](#) on or soon after Tuesday, January 19.
 - We will begin campus tours with new families on Monday, February 15, 2021.
 - **Reenrollment of current students will open on Monday, February 15, 2021.** The \$300 enrollment fee will be waived for all reenrollments completed prior to **midnight on Sunday, February 28, 2021**. All current students who **enroll prior to March 1, 2021** are guaranteed to hold their spot. You will receive a reenrollment email and link.
- [Washington School Report Cards](#) for all Districts are now available. This report card is current through 2018-2019. There will not be data for last year and it is unlikely the districts will test or report this school year. You simply select the District and then the



School you wish to see from the pull down window. There is a very nice PDF for each school if you would like to print a copy. In light of the current schooling formats, educational experts predict a significant drop in students meeting grade level standards. MVC students' grade level readiness increases as they move up each grade starting at around 75% readiness and ending as high as 99%. For those who like comparative data, here are the MVC scores that are not reported via the OSPI platform.

- Cost of Education Per Student \$8,500
- Students k-8 meeting grade level standards
 - ELA 86.1%
 - Math 88.1%
 - Science Stem Scores in top 10% Nationally
- 4 Year Graduation Rate 100%
- Students Regularly Attend 100%
- In High School we measure College Readiness which is more difficult than grade level standard. We exceed the National Ready and Exceeding percentiles in every category.
 - College Composition Readiness 94-99% (National 44%)
 - Reading 82-88% (National 44%)
 - Math 78-86% (National 35%)
 - Science 77-83% (National 29%)
- If you wish to support MVC financially here is a link to our [online giving](#) portal. If you select CANES CARE it helps cover costs related to COVID-19.

Links you may find helpful:

[COVID-19 testing locations](#)

[Governor's Dashboard](#)

[UPDATED OCT 16 Department of Health Decision Tree](#)

[Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction](#)

[State Board of Education](#)

[Washington Department of Health Covid-19 Dashboard](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) CoVID-19 Dashboard](#)

[Center for Disease Control](#)

[National Institutes for Health](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

Soli Deo Gloria,

Jeffrey A. Droog, Superintendent

Mount Vernon Christian School