August 2018

Dear Students,

I hope this letter finds you and your entire family well rested and looking forward to the opening of school. On behalf of the entire Junior-Senior High School staff, I would like to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year. Opening day for all students will be Wednesday, September 5th.

Education continues to be the cornerstone of our future. The entire team at ESM is excited to guide you through the education process in what is the best time in history to learn. Students have tons of information at their fingertips, which has created unique personalized learning experiences and new opportunities for our teachers. The educational leaders in our classrooms are now more facilitators and guides rather than the transfer hub of all information. Teachers now capitalize on collaborative learning environments to build the soft skills needed to be successful in the future. As we begin a new school year together, it is important for you to take advantage of every opportunity that will help build the skills that meet the demands of the 21st century. You should strive to extend your learning opportunities beyond the school day using a multitude of platforms including our learning management system, Schoology. As information has become so easily available, this tool and many others will be the key to continuing your educational growth outside the classroom.

ESM is more than academics, it is a place for you to meet new friends, discover new interests, and participate in events outside of the school day. Therefore, I encourage you to take chances throughout this school year, join a club, try out for a team, and meet new people to broaden your horizons. It is important to be part of the ESM culture throughout the year, support our school teams, attend school events and get involved! You will remember your school experiences for a lifetime, so make them count!

On September 5th some of you will be entering ESM Junior-Senior High School for the first time, while others may be returning for the start of their last year. No matter how old you are, it is critical for you to think about these guiding principles as you enter the school year.

- Dream and set goals to achieve those dreams
- Commit to working hard to achieve your goals
- Believe in yourself
- Think! Reflect on the past to be successful in the future
- Carpe Diem! Take advantage of every moment and don’t waste a day
- Laugh every day
- Enjoy the journey

I look forward to seeing you continue your educational journey at ESM on Wednesday, September 5th.

Sincerely,

Sal Alaimo
Principal