

Please help me celebrate the Class of 2020 Parents and Guardians

Today, the parents and guardians of the Class of 2020 are on my mind. Tonight, they will receive deliveries of celebratory goodies and bento boxes so that they can dine together online (where else?) in a Google Meet. Under normal circumstances, this SFS tradition would take place at a family's home. It'll be virtual this year, but I hope they will have a fun evening of sharing memories, appreciations for each other, and excitement for the future.

Many of these families found a new community three years ago when their children started 6th grade at SFS. Others have been at SFS since their child(ren) started as three year olds in the preschool in 2009, and a few joined somewhere in between. Two of the graduates are twins (they would have been the oldest 8th graders and banging the gongs with the youngest first grader at the Closing Ceremony). There are families with older alumni children who have been at SFS since 2002 and 2003!

I'm struck by the fact that some of these families joined SFS during the SARS pandemic, and the majority found us soon after the Great Recession. Having lived through these moments, the parents in the Class of 2020 will tell the story of a school that has steadily and consistently grown over the past decade-plus. It was during these years that we doubled the size of the middle school, built the Community Center, received two full accreditations, expanded our academic program, and more while remaining true to our roots. They can speak to the school's innovative and resilient mindset, and, in essence, they are a testament that whatever COVID19 brings us, SFS will persist!

Even in these days of coronavirus, we know that the future will be bright for this class of students and their families. We hope that tonight will transcend the physical distance of sheltering in place. Please join me in wishing the parents and guardians of the Class of 2020 a heartfelt celebration of their graduates and their enduring friendships.