

Dear Overlake Community,

As I prepare to teach the final five classes of the year, I have a variety of emotions as we look towards the end of the year. Many of these are the typical ones you have at this time of the year in school – excitement, worry, and joy. This year, however, there are several others we could all include – anxiety and fear probably bubble up to the top. What helps me manage these emotions is the tradition of our end-of-the-year events – from the Senior Brunch this Saturday, to the promotion of our eighth graders next week, and Senior Projects, followed of course by the graduation of the Class of 2020 at our first-ever mobile processional on June 7th!

For these and the other smaller events happening in the next few weeks, I want to thank our faculty, staff, volunteers, and students for finding new and creative ways to continue to build community with these important school milestones. None of this would have been possible without their collective help and efforts.

At last week's PFSA meeting and Tuesday's Town Hall, I've had the opportunity to share our plans thus far for next school year. I went through three different scenarios that I foresee us being in at some point this coming school year. If you were unable to attend one of the sessions, you can see a [recording here](#).

Of course, our plans need to align with information provided from the governor's office. Throughout the summer our planning will reflect the guidance and directives from them. Our goal this summer is to fully plan for several possible scenarios, which includes changes to how we work with each other and our students next year. In thinking recently about next year, I have realized that we need to move from what was, to what is and what will be.

We will continue to communicate to you this summer when information is provided by our public health and government officials that relate to the operation of schools. I will continue to meet with members of peer schools, as well as the Federation of Independent Schools as we work to make sure our voices are heard in Olympia in regard to school operations for independent schools.

We have one final Town Hall this coming Monday at 11:30 am. I will be joined by an Overlake parent, who is also a pediatric infectious disease physician, Dr. Ajoke Sobanjo-ter Meulen, who is involved in vaccine development, including COVID-19. The link to the virtual meeting is here: <https://bit.ly/2Vyqj3bJune1>

I look forward to learning more of the science behind this pandemic. I hope you can join us as well for what is sure to be an informative session.

In the meantime, if you're looking for a musical diversion, join Andy and Jacqui Jackson for an Owls Night In virtual concert this evening at 5:00 [here](#).

Until then, have a wonderful rest of the week. Be good to yourself and one another, and as always, thank you for being an Owl with us.

Be well,  
Matt