



VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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February 16, 2024

Dear Valley Stream 24 Families,

As we approach the winter recess, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support and partnership in your child's education. In our district, we embrace the diversity present in our community wholeheartedly. This year, we held highly successful Family Forums, which showcased the commitment of our community to learning about one another. The remarkable turnout of parents at these forums underscores our shared dedication to understanding and celebrating the cultures within our district. We are also actively exploring ways to naturally incorporate our students' diverse backgrounds and cultures into our daily teaching and learning experiences.

Recently, I met with our Student Council members to gain their input on our future-focused vision called Vision 2030, as well as on school lunches. I'm pleased to share that thanks to the feedback from our students in Student Council, as well as the collaboration of our Student Council teachers and food service workers, we will be introducing a vegetarian meal option in our school lunches for the first time starting in March! This initiative is a testament to our commitment to meeting the diverse needs of our student body and showcases the power of student voice.

Please remember that schools will be closed for winter recess the week of February 19th. Schools will reopen on Monday, February 26th. Additionally, we will be offering parent-teacher conferences in March this year, giving our families a chance to learn about mid-year progress.

As we look ahead to the future, our vision is one of innovation, inclusivity, and inspiration for all our learners. Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration!

Warmly,

Unal Karakas
Superintendent of Schools