



## From the desk of **KIMBERLY A. DESOTELL** President, GRACE

September 22, 2021

Dear GRACE Parents:

We are grateful and feeling blessed for such a strong start to the new academic year! Our GRACE schools are thriving as our students experience the best possible learning environment and atmosphere of respect, inclusion, forgiveness, love and generosity toward each other. It feels very good to be in worship together once again as we grow and develop as Disciples of Christ.

A few newsworthy updates follow below.

- Our [GRACE Strategic Plan](#) will be reviewed in the coming months to determine how we address the action steps during an extension of the plan into a fourth year. You will be receiving a survey link during the month of October asking for your input to prioritize the action steps. This survey will be sent out via electronic link in each school's Wednesday Family Newsletter in mid-October. Please be watchful for this survey and prayerfully respond as your input is incredibly valuable as an important stakeholder and partner in our work together.
- Each school is currently finalizing any changes to its next 30-day Covid Safety Site Plan under the direction of the principal. The GRACE Board of Trustees will review the Plans this week. Each Site Plan will be published by the school principal on Thursday, September 23, 2021. We will continue to utilize a 30-day review cycle for each plan to ensure the highest level of safety protocols as we monitor health and safety in our community. Thank you for attending to the health of your own family. Mitigating the spread of Covid is paramount as we all have a responsibility for self-awareness and monitoring as a first priority and essential step.
- GRACE enrollment is up over 160 students from last year. Our growth helps to position our stability and foundation as a system. This growth is also beautiful to witness as our existing GRACE families welcome the new families with open arms.
- Our GRACE Little Saints Child Care Program is up and running! The program serving children ages 6 weeks to 3 years old is open at this time for GRACE employees, and 12 Little Saints are enrolled. More information about the program and our growth plan will be included in our GRACE Fall Newsletter which will be published in mid-October.

As God's beauty unfolds around us during this season of fall, let us rejoice *"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."* [Colossians 3:15]

In His service,

Kimberly A. Desotell  
President, GRACE