



US Class Dean Update

Dear Senior Families,

Yesterday, students received their **Interim Comments and Grades-In-Progress**.

This afternoon, the same information will be released to you. In order to access your child's reports:

- Log-in to MyD-E via www.d-e.org. If you need help with your password, please Email help@d-e.org or call Computer Services at 201-227-3177.
- Click on your child's name near the top of the page and then click on "Progress."
- Select the current grade of your child and then click on the "Report Cards" link in the Performance tab.

As you approach conversations with your Seniors about their interim grades, consider some of the wisdom *Never Enough* author Jennifer Wallace shared with us this week when she visited D-E:

- **"Set boundaries to preserve relationships:"** Your kids have already begun discussing these reports in depth with their advisors, and (in some cases) their college counselors. When you review them at home, set up a *designated time* to reflect and strategize, and resist the temptation to let the conversation develop into a constant drip of anxiety about what it all means for the applications already submitted and those still in progress.
- **Focus on "mattering:"** In high stakes moments like these, it's important for our kids to know that they matter to us unconditionally, and that we value them for *who they are* and not just for *what they achieve*. Praise their successes, by all means, but make sure you also praise their non-academic strengths: perseverance, collaboration, creativity, risk-taking, etc. Be curious about their challenges and offer support, rather than shame. One

of my favorite nuggets from Wallace's talk on Wednesday was "**minimize criticism and maximize affection.**" They need that from us now more than ever.

- **Remember that these grades are part of a broader story, not the whole story.** No one thing they did or didn't quite achieve this fall is more important than the three years of hard work that got them here to begin with. Don't let them forget that!

Having made it to this significant Senior fall milestone, the kids will also begin enjoying their **Senior lunch privileges** on Monday, 11/17. (Please see my message from 11/6 for more details.) Students must submit their signed [permission form](#) to Mrs. Hazarian in the Upper School office by the end of school today in order to be eligible for lunch privileges on Monday. All students' **leave-free** privileges will also begin on Monday, 11/17.

Finally, please keep an eye out for a note from me next week with details about the upcoming **Authentic Connections Survey** and **Parent-Teacher Conferences**.

Best,

Emily