



Dear KSDS Families,

Thanks to all the members of the Krieger Schechter community, we can take great pride in our successful start to the school year. As a community of students, parents, educators, administrators, staff and board members, we have dedicated ourselves to one shared goal: to provide our students and teachers with a safe, enriching, educational experience this year.

We just read the Torah portion this past Shabbat which began with the words “*atem nitzavim hayom kulchem*,” You stand on this day, all of you, before the Lord your God. (Deuteronomy 29:9). At this time of year, we stand in judgment before God but we also search our souls to reflect on the ways in which we’ve met our obligations to other people and to society at large. We know this all too well. For this past year, we’ve been vigilant about our accountability not only to ourselves and our families but also to the school community.

Our success last year was anchored in a sacred covenant of mutual trust. Families placed their trust in the school, and the full school community placed its trust in our families. This notion has not changed. Creating and maintaining trust remains our most potent tool in enabling the school to sustain on-campus learning in the midst of what continues to be a most challenging health landscape. We thank you in advance for your continued commitment as we strive for a successful 5782 school year.

As we embark on the holiest time of year on the Jewish calendar, we redouble our efforts toward:

- Inner reflection and spiritual accounting (*Heshbon Hanefesh*)
- Continued vigilance in preventing the spread of Covid-19 and its variants
- Standing together to protect and support one another
- Relating to one another with empathy, kindness, and generosity of spirit

We encourage our families to look through the [Rosh HaShanah Table Talk material here](#), prepared specifically for KSDS families by our own Lower School JS Programming Chair, *Morah* Toby Kaplowitz. Enjoy the conversations with your children as we reflect on this special time of year.

I pray that as we engage wholeheartedly in the process of *teshuva*--the soul searching of these Days of Awe--and rededicate ourselves to improving our relations with God and one another, the words from *Nitzavim* “*v’shav Adonai Elohecha et shvutcha v’richamecha*,” “the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and take you back in love (Deuteronomy 30:3) will indeed come to pass.

*Shanah Tovah,*

Rabbi Moshe