



Charles Eliot-Lemon G. Hine Middle School

"THE PRIDE AND JOY OF CAPITOL HILL"

Marlene Magrino, Principal

July 30, 2018

Dear Eliot-Hine Community,

Thank you for the support and warmth with which you have welcomed me. I am truly inspired by our staff and community members who have, in a short time, demonstrated deep belief in the potential of our school and shown commitment to helping support Eliot-Hine reach its true potential. **As a community, we are embarking on an exciting new journey, which will include moments of opportunity, struggle, and celebration. In the end, Eliot-Hine will be a school where students and staff are joyfully learning each day.** I am aware this community has endured significant transition over the past few years and my arrival may bring a sense of excitement, anxiety, or both. I have, therefore, given a great deal of thought regarding how to best approach my entry into this leadership role. I would like to share my plan with you here.

We have incredible urgency around certain bodies of work that must be done and systems that must be in place in order to launch a successful school year together. These time constraints require that many **short-term decisions** will be made without much ability for in depth discussion and collaboration. This work, already underway, will be lead primarily by the leadership team this summer. I ask that you trust in this process and enter this year with an open mind while understanding that we will have an opportunity to revise our approach should we identify that our decisions do not best serve the community in the long run. **What's most important in the short-term is that we are positive, unified in our efforts, and consistent with each other and our students from day one around every common commitment that we make.**

Understanding that outcomes reached through collaborative efforts are always stronger than those produced by an individual or a small group, I am also proposing a **comprehensive entry plan that speaks to our long-term work** together. I am looking for a process that really allows me to get to know our school's history, strengths, challenges, hopes, and dreams. The longer-term plan will allow us to assess what has or has not worked historically as well as what is or is not working in our initial short-term plan. **It will help solidify our collective vision for Eliot-Hine's future.**

This letter outlines **my plan to balance short-term urgent tasks with longer-term strategic planning in a way that hopefully provides for an authentic, collaborative outcome that reflects our whole school community.** The process will consist of a series of group interviews and activities, which will inform a group sharing session. After sharing and confirming that this feedback is correct, I will create an action plan with the support of the leadership team and share this with everyone who participated in the process. The full timeline is outlined below. If you have any questions or suggestions about this process, please reach out.

Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of serving as Principal at Eliot-Hine. I look forward to a safe and joyful year full of learning!