

Dear Rescue Families,

This is our last communique before winter break. Above all, we want to wish you a special, wonderful holiday season with family. We trust you will remain healthy and safe. We hope you take time to rest and refresh, as this fall has been challenging and stressful to say the least.

I would also like to challenge you to try something with us. For the past four years, I have encouraged our staff to individually choose One Word for the year. It is now time to find that one word for 2021. I invite you to click [here](#) to read more about choosing [One Word](#) to give you meaning, mission, passion, and purpose in 2021 (rather than a list of resolutions that are easily broken). This idea comes from one of my favorite authors, Jon Gordon. I have personally practiced this for the past 6 years. My words have been Renewal, Courage, Capacity, Steadfast, Abundance, and Cultivate. Sometimes it takes a while for your word to find you. I suggest you think and listen to that still, quiet voice inside you and your word will come to you! I love looking back over my words and reflecting on what was going on in my world that made that year's word particularly relevant and important. ***This is the perfect time to start considering: 1) What do you want to focus on this year? 2) What is in the way? 3) What do you need more or less of? 4) What needs to change? and/or 5) How can your one word move you from busyness to purposeful action?***

Each December, as I reflect on these questions, words will start to pop up and then I let those words percolate for a bit before I decide on my One Guiding Word for the Year. My word finally found me for 2021. It is **CONNECTED**. I know that because of the pandemic we are in, I need to carefully, consistently, and conscientiously seek new and additional ways to connect to our students, to our families, to our staff, and to my own family. It is very important to me to do just that.

When your word for 2021 finds you, I would be honored if you would share it with me. Send me an email when you have your Word for the Year. Let's make this a purposeful year. Many of our teachers take their students through this process too! I love hearing about all the special words our students and staff select. I'd love to hear yours as well.

**Lastly, we have a COVID update for you:**

**Pleasant Grove** had 1 student test positive, but only 3 students have to quarantine. Also, completely unrelated to the positive student, PG has a staff member who has tested positive, but no one was considered a close contact, so no one needs to quarantine.

**Lake Forest** has one student who is presumed positive, and we have quarantined the teacher and the 9 students in the cohort until we hear for sure whether the student is positive or not. If you have not received a phone call, your child is not in the cohort needing to be quarantined.

**Jackson** has one student who has tested positive, and 6 students need to quarantine.

***Should your child, or anyone in your immediate family, or a close contact to your child test positive over winter break, please, please contact me at [colson@my.rescueusd.org](mailto:colson@my.rescueusd.org) or (530) 672-4810. We also ask that you adhere to our health and safety protocols over break and if your child has any symptoms on January 4, please keep them home and contact your school office. We want to be able to keep our schools open.***

Have a wonderful Christmas and a healthy New Year. Here's to 2021!

Most sincerely,

Cheryl Olson

