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January 17, 2018

Dear KISMS Parents:

We have had a successful start to the second semester of this school year. The KISMS student body and staff have welcomed several new students and are excited for them to join our school community. Students and teachers have gotten back into the swing of school, diving into lessons, projects, and clubs for second semester are beginning this week.

### **Principal's Coffee**

On January 23rd, we will be hosting a principal's coffee in the Conference Hall in G building. This will be an opportunity for parents to ask questions about KIS and KISMS in particular. After the meeting, 8th grade parents are invited to stay for presentations and information from counselors about registering for HS classes for next year. The meeting begins at 10 am, with the counselors beginning their presentation at 11:30 am.

### **School Picture Information**

On January 30th, we will be having their school picture retakes. Students who did not get their picture taken in October, or who are new to KISMS will go to the Mini Auditorium to update their pictures. If you would like to purchase school photographs please click on this [link](#) for more information.

### **Lockers**

We have had questions about locker location and how students are assigned them. We assign these lockers and their locations based on where students are for their midday classes. There are no current plans to make changes to the way these lockers are assigned, as this has managed to be the most effective placement of the lockers for our students.

### **Inclusion and Belonging**

We want to continue to encourage our students to treat one another with respect and to include everyone. KISMS is a diverse school with students and staff from many different places. This week, our MSStuco is sponsoring our Dude, Still Be Nice Week. This week is full of fun challenges and activities that encourage our student body to talk to those they may not normally talk to and to treat others with kindness. As parents, you can continue fostering this environment by modeling inclusive practices, demonstrating the power of speaking positively about others, and by encouraging friendships with new classmates.

**Questions about a class?**

At KISMS, we want to urge all parents to contact teachers if there are questions or concerns pertaining to any of the classes their child is taking. All of the teachers will gladly respond as soon as they are able to any emails or phone calls. Please remember that communication is key to a successful school system.

**What to do if my student has an issue or trouble in a class?**

Dr. Elethia Rhoden is our MS Counselor and she is here to support all of our students and parents if there is a challenging time. We also believe it is important for our students to address issues that come up by speaking directly to their teachers (Dr. Rhoden or our administration can help with this conversation) so they can take responsibility for their own education. Our administrative and counseling offices are open and accessible so please encourage your student to connect with us anytime.

Thank you for your continued support of our middle school and all of students and staff. As the second half of the year has begun, this is a great time to reflect upon what we have experienced so far and to plan for the greatness ahead. We look forward to seeing you at school!

Sincerely,



Jim Slaid  
Middle School Principal  
Korea International  
School