



SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A Great Hearts Academy

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October 24, 2019

Dear Scottsdale Prep Families,

Last evening's PSO presentation "Turning DiSTRESS into Success" was such an informative and compelling reminder of the challenges we see in our students across the nation. I am so grateful to our PSO board for securing and promoting this presentation for our families at Scottsdale Prep. One of the most important statements presenter Katey McPherson made was in regard to the use of technology, and strikingly, it wasn't about the students' use. She addressed our issue as adults - glued to our own devices such that we are not engaging frequently enough in meaningful interactions and deep conversations with our children. She spoke of the importance of affection and love shared with our children daily, and the way in which their behaviors may shift as a result of unmet attachment needs.

More than ever, our students are facing so many stressors, some external, and some that are self-induced, and as the adult mentors in their lives, we must take seriously our responsibility to help them find peace and joy in their daily labors. I hope you will stay in touch with me about the ways in which we can do even more.

We heard from many of you in our first family survey this fall about the ways in which teachers have inspired your children, and how the curriculum challenges them to be thoughtful, curious, and compassionate human beings. We will continue to use these surveys to refine our good work in the service of a great-hearted education. One of the areas we seek to improve is the teacher-parent collaboration through blogs and other platforms, so please stay tuned for more information in the months to come.

In the meantime, I hope everyone will mark their calendars for the Homecoming Game on Friday, November 1st at Scottsdale Christian Academy's football field. Kick-off is at 7 pm, and we will begin with a pre-game meal and treats at 6 pm, so please plan to join us for this wonderful community event!

Onward Spartans!

Alison Chaney, Headmaster