



## STUDENT SERVICES

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It has been a while since my last eSpartan submission, and it goes without saying that the world has changed in dramatic ways in just six short, albeit long, months. We have learned new ways of doing old things and have now grown accustomed to our daily routines. We have continued to move forward planning for the future while taking it day by day and remaining flexible enough to adapt to the unexpected changes and ever-changing situations. With no clear end in sight, we know that we need to remain vigilant in our efforts and resilient with our circumstances. To help with this and to learn how we can best develop our own resiliency, as well as the resiliency of our children, please [click here](#).

While remaining mentally strong during these difficult times is important, it is perhaps even more important to remain socially and emotionally well. To this end, we have partnered with a well-established social-emotional learning company named [The Social Institute](#). After spending more than a year looking for the best program for our needs, we chose this company (TSI) because of their response to the Covid crisis and the way they were able to keep students and teachers connected in meaningful ways during the quarantine. In addition to this, founder and CEO [Laura Tierney](#) has remained collaborative, informative, and engaging. She understands just how important this is and has worked tirelessly with others to develop a curriculum that opens up timely and important conversations. Thanks to our partnership, this curriculum is now accessible to all children and families in grades 5-12 at Athens Academy. While Athens Academy has been committed to the social and emotional development of children for many, many years (classroom guidance lessons in Lower School, SFA in Middle School, and advisory/seminar in Upper School) we are joining other well-established and reputable schools across the nation to confer and collaborate so we can ensure that our students are receiving the most up-to-date and important information, therefore enabling them to develop in socially and emotionally important ways.

We are very fortunate to be able to bring Laura to all of you (virtually) on the night of Monday, September 21, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. I do hope that you will save the date and attend this informative event from the comfort of your own home. To register, please use this link- [Athens Academy Registration Link](#)- and reach out if you have any difficulties. In addition to having this opportunity to hear from Laura, we are hoping that you will find time to register for the Resource Portal provided to us from TSI. The Resource Portal contains an extensive collection of resources that is designed to help us navigate and understand the many different ways children are using and interacting with the always evolving social media platform. As a parent and as an educator, I have found the information contained within it to be timely and informative. To register, please use this easy [step-by-step guide](#) and when prompted, use the following code to complete the registration: 07b1F315A8B32B.

The family/school partnership has always been an important part of our school's success, and while we are always looking to create new partnerships with institutions and organizations outside of Athens Academy, we depend on, and are successful because of, our partnership with our parents. Here's to another successful year together.

Stay healthy and well and reach out whenever you have the need.

Bob