



THE AVERY COONLEY SCHOOL

September 2017

Dear Members of the ACS Community,

Welcome back to the Avery Coonley School for the 2017/18 School Year! We hope you had a great Summer and were able to enjoy the quieter pace, long days, great weather and time together with family and friends. We return to the ACS Campus with new family memories, and excited to conduct the work that lies ahead with Strategic Planning.

We would like to give you a quick update on Strategic Planning. First, we want to thank all of you who participated in the Strategic Planning Survey conducted by our consultants, Ian Symmonds & Associates, last Spring. While it took some time to complete, your input is invaluable as we strive to set the course for ACS for the years to come.

Additionally, we are pleased to announce the members of our Strategic Planning Steering Committee. This group of dedicated and thoughtful administrators, faculty, parents, Board members and outside experts will work together to consider and debate the past, present and future of ACS, and to envision and create a dynamic Strategic Plan for our school. The Steering Committee spent the Summer doing some thought-provoking reading and had its first meeting in September to discuss some “big picture” thoughts and to run through some strategy exercises under the guidance of our consultant, Ian Symmonds. Based on our initial meeting, we found this group to be incredibly thoughtful, engaged, creative and capable for this endeavor. The Steering Committee Members are:

**Alexis Bryant** - Literacy Department Chair and 5th and 6th Group Literacy Teacher

**Dave Dundek** - 5th and 6th Group Social Studies Teacher

**Sunshine Echevarria** - 1st Group Teacher

**Jennifer Marvel-Gillono** - 4th Group Teacher

**Peter Brown** - CFO

**Paul Druzinsky** - Head of School

**Leslie Gordon** - Lower School Head

**Rebecca Malotke-Meslin** - Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

**Archana Chawla** - Board Member and Current Parent

**Nancy Doris** - Alumna, President of Alumni Association and Current Parent

**Joshua Friess** - Board Member and Current Parent

**Imran Qureshi** - Current Parent

**Lisa Vaughan** - Current and Alum Parent

**Prasad Veluchamy** - Board Member and Current and Alum Parent

**Amy Louis** - Board Member (Board Chair) and Alum Parent

**Shannon Weinberger** - Board Member and Alum Parent

**Susan Corwith** (outside member) - Associate Director, Northwestern Center for Talent Development

We thank the Steering Committee in advance for their time and dedication to ACS and look forward to keeping you apprised of the planning process.

Warmly,

***Archana Chawla and Joshua Friess***

*Co-Chairs of the ACS 2018 Strategic Plan*