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Good day everyone

I am very excited to work with the Diocesan College Community on the transformation project. Thank you for all the messages I received from some of you. It is encouraging to hear so many parents express interest in this initiative. I feel your support already and look forward to more of that in the future.

I wrote this to hello, and thank you for your support now and in the future.

My team and I are approaching this project from all corners. We want to impact all staff, the boys, and parents as much as we can. To do so, we must also ensure that we set the right tone and foundation to inspire curious conversation, empathetic connection, authentic storytelling, courageous engagement, and belongingness. To set the right foundation means that we will work with not only the minds and souls but also the systems that hold everything together.

The first phase of this transformation initiative will be engaging with all stakeholders in the next few months to obtain as much input from everyone as possible. The Diocesan community is large and diverse, and as such, we will not be able to engage with you all face to face. You will receive a link to a survey. This will allow you to share your thinking and provide us with what you think success will look like once we hand over to the school community to continue this journey on their own (staff, boys, and parents), with minimal supervision from my team and me. I thank you in anticipation of your participation in the survey.

During this phase, we will also be looking at, and “auditing” the school systems meant to support such an initiative (processes, practices, experiences) and making recommendations for change. So, in 2021, when we begin engaging stakeholders again and having facilitated conversations, we will have a strong foundation to support this process. The facilitators will be selected from the school community (we will follow strict criteria) and trained by me. I will supervise them at all times to ensure consistency, continuous learning, and support.

I look forward to the months ahead. I would also like to thank the matrics for their part in this process. While they will not be part of it next year, they can go their various ways, knowing they were part of a significant shift in the history of the school.

Please **remember that this is the beginning of another phase in the school’s history. There is no endpoint, but rather, continuous learning and refreshing.**

Regards

Lele Mehlomakulu

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