



December 21, 2020

Dear North Merrick Parents, Guardians, Faculty and Staff,

Tonight is the annual Winter Solstice, marking the shortest period of daylight and longest night of the year. This evening, there is also an especially rare event taking place at sunset when Jupiter and Saturn move closer to each other than they have since the Middle Ages and will appear brightly joined in the sky.

We've been through many clouded days and nights this year with the ongoing pandemic and the distress it has caused to our personal, work, and school lives. At this point, many of us are feeling weary just as the holidays are upon us. But as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Only when it is dark enough can you see the stars." We have witnessed such strength, resilience, fortitude, and grace within our school community as we have come together to shine our North Merrick light ever so bright.

Over the winter recess, use the time to rest and reflect on what is most important. While we may be having more quiet holiday celebrations, we can still warm up our homes with love and laughter. And starting tomorrow, know that there will be a little more daylight each day as we begin 2021 filled with hope and promise.

I wish each of you and your families a joyous holiday season, and health and happiness for the new year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk