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August 17, 2020

To the students and families of the Class of 2033,

Welcome to Kindergarten! I just had to send our newest students a special message to welcome you as you begin your journey in Henry County Schools. We are so glad that you are with us, and we can't wait to become treasured friends for life. I know this is an unusual start to a school year and an unusual way to start your first year at your new school. I also know just how much you were looking forward to riding the big kid bus and going to the big kid school for the very first time. But no worries! I feel optimistic that when the time is right we will be able to put on our new backpacks, fill our lunch boxes, and experience another first day when we can get together and learn at school.

The reason I became a teacher was because of my kindergarten teacher. She was magical to me, and because of her, I learned to love school, love learning, love playing, love others, and most importantly, believe in myself. Although I really wish we could be learning together at school, I know your teacher is going to be able to accomplish the same exact thing. Just like my teacher, your kindergarten teacher will be magical, too, and will make learning come to life! Even right through the digital screen, you will learn how much you love school, love learning, love playing, love others, and most importantly, how to believe in yourself.

And to the moms, dads, grandparents, guardians, and caregivers of our Class of 2033, we will blink and it will be May 2033. Since these years fly by, hopefully, there is a silver lining that you have a few more minutes to have them by your side. Please know that we truly desire to partner with you as you navigate these first days, weeks, months, and into the years to come. We treasure your kindergartner and vow to give them our best each and every year. I am hopeful that while today marks the first day as a remote-learning kindergartner in Henry County Schools, we will get to celebrate another first day as a kindergartner when we get to come together as a community at school to learn and grow together. Like the graduation stage of 2033, the kindergarten graduation stage of 2021 will be a celebration of your little one's unprecedented journey through this year and evidence of what we can do together to nurture love and belief in a little life.

We hope you had a great first day of remote learning and that you have a great year in kindergarten! I can't wait to meet you!

Sincerely,

Mary Elizabeth Davis