



June 8, 2020

Dear Students, Families, Faculty, Friends, Donors, and Supporters,

Pope Francis reminds us that “Human dignity is the same for all human beings: When I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own.” As we have witnessed the trampling of human dignity through systemic racism and violence in recent days, weeks, months, and years, we witness a violation of creation, humanity—as represented in the faces of our Black students, their families, and their communities. As a society, we are called at all cost to respect the God given dignity of humankind, and racism and violence of any kind is an affront to that very principle. Our dignity is a gift from God never to be trampled by anyone, and it is clear that we all need to do more.

Liguori Academy continues our commitment of recognizing the intrinsic value of our Black students, their families, our faculty, and our staff. Our very mission, through Boundless Love, is a promise to the world of our devotion to forming leaders from those society has marginalized through racism, violence, and economics. Our students are seen at a promise at Liguori Academy, not the deficit society places on their shoulders based on the color of their skin, or the neighborhoods in which they live. We recognize the inherent individuality in our students—the uniqueness of their souls and experiences as varied as the stars in the night sky. We are committed to disrupting the educational status quo that has had its hand in the marginalization of Black lives in the city Philadelphia, as well as the United States at large.

Of course, like any institution and human being, we too are a work in progress. We must do better in order to protect our students—especially our Black students and families—from the evils of the world.

Now more than ever.

As such, we invite all of you to get involved in our movement and mission of offering Boundless Love and opportunity to our students. If ever there was a time to help today’s youth and tomorrow’s leaders, it is now.

Join us.

Help us break the cycle of racism and violence in our city by allowing us to show our students how Boundless their potential truly is.

We are called to uphold dignity inherent in humankind. And that is exactly what we are going to do.

To all of our students, especially our Black students and their families: You are Boundless. You are welcome here. You are family.

That is a promise.

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.”

- C.S. Lewis

In Liguori,

Michael V. Marrone

President and Founder of Liguori Academy