Hello, CSM Community,

I hope you have found inspiration this semester and are taking the time to realize peace in every step as we continually reaffirm our service in education. I look forward to seeing all of you at our all-campus meeting in the afternoon of Wednesday, March 8. Please save the date.

This month is Black History Month, and we have an impressive array of events and activities lined up. I am particularly excited about tomorrow's keynote speech featuring Dr. Lerone Martin, the Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University. He will lead a compelling discussion of the history of white nationalism and the FBI and the vital importance of historical studies for today's culture and activism. I encourage you to attend at 11 am in the Theatre.

Today, we celebrate the most powerful and transformative emotion in the world—love. Love can bring happiness, joy, and comfort to our lives, and love binds us together as families, partners, friends, and communities.

As a campus, we have discussed love as praxis, which involves putting love into practice by demonstrating care, compassion, and kindness towards others. This requires conscious and deliberate choices to prioritize the needs of others, to actively listen and understand one another’s perspectives, and engage in acts of kindness and generosity. We have the power to create a world defined by love and compassion.

There is no better example of love as praxis than what transpires daily in CSM’s Child Development Center. Children represent our future and the purest and most innocent form of love. They remind us that love is not just a feeling but a choice we make every day—to be kind, generous, and compassionate to those around us. So, on this Valentine's Day, let us all strive to bring more love into the world.
In community,
Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza