Dear Carrollton Community,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones safe and well, and that you have had some opportunity to reflect on and experience that Easter celebrates God’s capacity for goodness. While our individual experiences of worry, sadness, grief, joy or optimism are certainly different, there have been signs during these past weeks that have inspired hope in me and perhaps in you as well. First and foremost, I am especially proud of the many individual and group efforts by members of our community to help others during this pandemic. Students, parents, alumnae, faculty, and staff at all grade levels are making masks and meals, organizing food delivery, and coordinating efforts to support care givers, first responders, and those in our community who are without and most vulnerable. You can read about these efforts on Carrollton’s Facebook and Instagram pages. An additional sign of hope are the models now indicating that Florida may have reached its peak medical resource use four days ago. Still, social distancing will continue for the time being, and we will return to our environment of remote learning on Monday.

While recognizing the profound challenges and worries we currently face, it is important to remember and celebrate accomplishments. In this spirit, let us especially honor the Class of 2020.

Through their academic and co-curricular efforts and achievements, the Class of 2020 has earned admission to 119 different colleges and universities. The National Merit Program honored ten Seniors as National Hispanic Scholars and six as National Merit Commended Scholars, from which two have been honored as National Merit Finalists. Seven Seniors have been offered admission into highly selective programs in Medicine, International Business, and the Arts. Nine Seniors have been invited to compete for, or awarded, offers of prestigious merit scholarships from universities, and five have been awarded scholarships from outside organizations. Overall, 91% of our Seniors met the criteria for a Bright Futures Scholarship, and 36 colleges and universities offered some level of merit scholarship to one or more of our Seniors. Four of our Seniors will continue their athletic careers at the Division 1 level in college.

Senior leadership resulted in a banner year for our athletic program. Our Cross-Country team had several First-Place finishes at invitational meets, and finished runner up in their District. Our Volleyball team advanced all the way to the Regional Tournament, our Golf team placed second in the District Tournament, and our Swim team took third place in the District meet scoring 344 points, the highest in the history of the program. In the winter, our Basketball and Soccer programs achieved new heights. Our Basketball team finished second in the District and, advanced all the way to the Regional semi-final (a first in the history of the program). The Soccer team won its fourth District Title in a row, were Regional champions, and lost a tightly contested game in the State Final. They finished the season ranked 11th in the nation. In spite of a spring season cut short by the pandemic, our Softball, Beach Volleyball, and Tennis teams compiled winning records. Our Sailing team, after five regattas is currently ranked 17th in SAISA South. The Track and Field team took first place in the Ransom Everglades Invitational, and broke four school records before their season was cut short. Throughout the year our Junior Varsity and Junior High teams compiled strong records, as they developed their knowledge, skills, and, most importantly, their love of the sport.

Senior leadership is also evident in the continued success and growth of our many co-curricular programs. The Carrollton Debate team sent teams to twelve national tournaments, each hosting hundreds of students from dozens of states. Carrollton teams advanced to the elimination rounds at each of these tournaments, with Senior led teams finishing as high as Second Place in some. Our Campus Ministers have expanded their program by adding Thankful Thursdays to our practice of Espacio and Prayer Breaks. Their work in supporting the spiritual growth of our community has been tremendous and continues even now in our virtual environment. Our Academic Honor Societies developed a peer tutoring program in the Upper School, which has expanded to tutoring at all grade levels during this time of remote learning. Our RECS solar car program grew from competing and winning in Florida to preparing to compete at the national level. There are many more clubs and organizations that have been led by our seniors. Rather than list them all, I borrow from St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, that their example, even more than any words, are an eloquent example to our community.

Thank you, Class of 2020! As I said in my video to you, there is not just one area for you which will be remembered at Carrollton. Your influence and leadership have been evident throughout our school and our programs.

I look forward to the many opportunities I will have in the future to thank you face to face.

With great hope for the future,

Mr. Kalkus

"Your example, even more than your words, will be an eloquent lesson to the world.”
St. Madeleine Sophie Barat
YOUR COURAGE
YOUR CHEERFULNESS
YOUR RESOLUTION
WILL BRING
US VICTORY