



20/21 REFLECTIONS

Chapter 26 - T.E.A.M. Stands For...

Who doesn't love a feel-good message?

In the spirit of 2021 being our [Year of the Lotus](#), and in the spirit of us closing out the school year on a positive note, I'm sharing today an upbeat, heartwarming reflection from Michele McEvoy-Vanderhyde, a school nurse at Huntington Park High School.

Michele sent me this reflection last semester. However, its message and tone remain ever so fitting right now, as we all begin to feel that ray of sun that marks the beginning of the recovery phase of this pandemic.

Michele's reflection, at its heart, is a note of gratitude and admiration to the incredible SHHS teammates who linked arms like never before to help families through their most challenging times. Indeed, gratitude and admiration toward all of you are the emotions I have felt most strongly throughout this pandemic, and those feelings have only grown over the course of this year.

Thank you, Michele, for capturing so perfectly what we have all been feeling toward each other, and what we continue to feel so strongly in the final weeks of this remarkable year. Without further ado...

Michele's Reflection

I am currently working the Covid site at Huntington Park High School. The LAUSD family which has gathered there is nothing short of Amazing! I have never experienced such a supportive and loving group from people who hardly know each other. A divine appointment. We all get along so well, and each one looks out for the other. The facilitator behind getting things off to a great start is Claudia Silva from Beyond the Bell. Claudia is a natural "people person." She is mindful with the words she chooses to use, always striving to use the most positive approach while at the same time empowering and protecting all of us whom she has been entrusted to lead, guide and direct. I never knew that a group made up of mostly strangers could embrace one another as family at such an early stage of involvement. This is my current reality.

I am grateful to all our SHHS family and our outside partners who have stepped in whole-heartedly to keep us safe while working together to re-open schools safely for students, staff and protecting the communities we serve.

I saw a slogan today on a business vehicle which displayed, T.E.A.M. which stands for "Together Everyone Achieves More." This could not have crossed my path at a more perfect time. I have always desired and knew the importance of this but have never experienced it at this level and so quickly.

Thank you for the opportunity for me to express my grateful heart.

Sincerely,

Pia and Michele

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