



*From the desk of Richard N. Rickey  
Founder/C.E.O.*

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December 16, 2020

As we approach our annual holiday break I want to wish you all a safe and joyous time with your family. I know this has been a difficult and challenging year for everybody. Who saw this coming? Yet, not surprisingly, the Orenda Education family rose to the unprecedented challenge of educating our students during a serious pandemic, and social turmoil. Under the leadership of our District Superintendent Carla Silber, and her campus leaders, our school families have expressed overwhelming satisfaction with the way we have handled the situation. Cheers to our teaching faculty who have been conducting class both virtually and in-person. You are amazing!

Looking ahead to the new year, the Texas legislature will begin meeting in January to adopt new laws, regulations, and a new state budget. I plan to be at the Capitol often this spring advocating for school choice. While we don't know for sure what financial challenges await the public education sector, you can be confident that Orenda will continue to be a good steward of the limited resources we have to work with, especially when compared with our traditional school neighbors who receive more funding than we do. Because the new Biden administration is less friendly to charter schools we must remain vigilant and be ready to mobilize quickly when needed.

Have a great holiday break. I look forward to seeing all of your faces sometime in 2021. May the COVID vaccine work tremendously!

Sincerely,

*Richard N. Rickey*