



November 3rd, 2020

Dear Excel Academy High School Families,

We are eager to connect with you as Excel families on this election day. The 2020 election process has been long and brought intense emotions for many in our community and country. As a school, Excel Academy aims to provide a stable, safe, and positive environment for students' growth and learning. Excel Academy's mission is *to prepare students to succeed in high school and college, apply their learning to solve relevant problems, and engage productively in their communities*. This remains at the forefront of our work together.

As we prepare for our community to engage with this election, we want to both allow students the support they need while also continuing to provide students with opportunities to engage critically with civic processes in order to grow and develop their own perspectives and opinions. To that end, we are providing the following support and academic opportunities for students this week:

- **November 2-6:** Daily civic engagement activities provided during advisory
- **November 3:** The academic day will end at 2:30 PM and afternoon office hours have been canceled to provide staff, students, and families with the opportunity to vote
- **November 4:** Affinity spaces will be available from 2:30 - 3:00 PM for any student who would like to process, connect, and be in community with peers and trusted adults. There will be separate spaces made available for the following student groups:
 - Black Caucus
 - Asian Student Union
 - Pride Association of Excel
 - Arab Student Union
 - Immigration Advocates of Excel
 - Young Women's Alliance
 - Band of Brothers
 - All Student Processing Space
- **All week:** Counselors and Deans will be available to support students seeking individualized support

Excel is a community where all perspectives are welcome. Through this election, we will continue the work we do every day - supporting the impressive young people in our school to think critically about local and national issues in a way that is respectful, empathetic, and rigorous. If you have any questions about support or opportunities available to students this week, please reach out to your student's advisor or call the school at (617) 326-3574.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nina Keough".

Nina Keough