



September 4, 2020

Dear Breck Community,

After months of preparing for both our cultural and physical reuniting, it has been joyous to see our students and faculty coming together to engage in moments of learning, inspiration, and connection as we begin the 2020-2021 academic year. Despite our masks, directional hallways, and frequent hand sanitizing, this is Breck. It feels so good to be home.

As we closed our first week together on campus — and off — we took a few moments with our students in grades 7-12 and started the day by reflecting on our culture and commitments at Breck. Culture is how we live and learn together, for each other. It is built with purpose. It is not accidental. In the video below, I shared the following words:

*We are learning, reflecting, changing, and we are not going back. We are picking up the mirror of accountability. We are listening with the goal of improving. We are leaning into this work and we will align our actions with our mission.*

Today's address was the beginning of many conversations we will have this year across all ages and grade levels about identity, equity, and discourse. We are committed to making Breck a brave space where everyone knows and feels they belong. I hope you will take time to view the video and engage in conversation with your family that demonstrates to our students that you walk alongside us on this journey of educating the whole child.

I look forward to continuing this conversation with you in the weeks and months to come.

Natalia Rico Hernández, Ed.D.

Head of School

