



A Message from the Head of Middle School

Dear Keys Community,

We write with great enthusiasm to announce that Keys School is partnering with [Challenge Success](#), from Stanford's Graduate School of Education, to examine how Keys and Keys families can better promote student well-being and engagement- a perfect pairing with our mission, particularly in the context of "an increasingly hurried world."

Over the course of the 2018-19 school year, Keys will work with Challenge Success team members to analyze some of our school systems, survey Middle School students, provide parent education, and explore changes (big and little!) that might help to bring balance and deeper fulfillment to the student experience.

Most of the research behind Challenge Success' work focuses on Middle and High School students, but that is not to say our Lower School families won't benefit from the work ahead as well. This promises to be a dynamic process where parents, students and faculty/staff will learn and teach each other about the challenges that come with parenting, learning and living in this day and age, in our region, and at Keys. Challenge Success is not a "plug and play" program for schools to implement. Rather, it is an honest, open and iterative investigation into topics such as time/schedule, motivation, assessment, school climate, anxiety, learning conditions and how this all leads to student health and well-being.

Though we have a Challenge Success Keys team to guide our work through the year, there will be ample opportunities for all families to be involved. In fact, on Friday, November 2nd, Challenge Success is hosting a talk: [Say What? The Power of Communication in Raising Healthy, Engaged Kids](#) at Stanford University's Memorial Auditorium from 7:30 - 9:00pm. Tickets are \$10 each. A growing group of faculty and staff will be there. Join us in learning and finding new, meaningful ways to support your child's growth.

We look forward to not only sharing more with you, but we are counting on all constituents of Keys to be co-architects in the work to come. Join us!

With excitement and gratitude,

The Keys School Challenge Success Team

P.S. Since drafting this note to you, Challenge Success has published a new White Paper synthesizing research about the college admissions process and the relationship between a university's selectivity ratings and their alumni's quality of life. We believe the findings about college are also true for high school. If you're interested in the paper, please click [here](#).



Lower School Campus • 2890 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306
Middle School Campus • 3981 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306
Phone: 650-328-1711

