



January 2017

Dear Honor Roll Student,

I am happy to congratulate you for earning a place on the President's Honor Roll for the first semester of the 2016 - 2017 school year. Earning these grades is a strong and positive statement about your passion for learning and academics. Achieving strong marks in your classes is great preparation for your next academic journey into college or university.

Year in, year out, 98% of Menaul School students enroll in university studies after high school. Last week one of my greatest joys was realized as many recent Menaul School graduates stopped by to say hello.

Two very strong alumni, Kosi Njoku '15, and Eric Nyase '16, visited Ms. Shuler-Misra's health classes and passed on some advice. Kosi Njoku is studying Business and Accounting at the University of Houston and Eric is studying Neuroscience at Brown University. They, like several other recent grads, said Menaul School prepared them well for their academic challenges. Eric gave some profound advice; he said that a lot of his past learning has helped him at Brown because he learned not just to pass the test, but he studied to understand. He called it Deep Learning. He explained how it helped him thrive at Menaul School and now at Brown University.

My challenge to you, the Honor Class of 2016 - 2017, is to learn deeply, to study until you comprehend. If you are confused, ask questions – don't be afraid to sit with and struggle with complex or potentially contradictory ideas. The struggles will help you learn deeply and provide a basis for future academic success.

I look forward to sending you another letter like this at the next marking period. Until then, struggle on learning deeply, and bless us all with your achievements and your questions.

Yours truly,

Lindsey R. Gilbert, Jr.
President and Head of Menaul School