



September 18, 2024

Dear Ellington Family -

We continue our academic journey with [Civil Discourse During Uncertain Times - Presidential Election 2024: Moving Away From Personalities and Toward Policy Driven Politics](#).

Feedback from the first Ellington High School lesson on applying the [Seeds of Civility](#) to the concept of debating versus arguing has been positive. One parent commented, *"After the activity, my kids watched the presidential debate that night and were chatting with their friends about the candidates."*

Today, we launch Ellington Middle Schools' [Executive Summary](#). This is similar to the high school with three total lessons grounded in the Seeds of Civility. However, EMS will focus on gun control policy as opposed to the high school's focus on immigration.

Here is the [slide deck](#) for the middle schools' first lesson on the Seeds of Civility that will take place on Friday, September 20th. Special thanks to EMS social studies teachers—especially Edith Vibert-Johnson and Matt Ferraro—for their lesson planning and implementation.

Additional high and middle school lessons will follow, and in October the elementary approach will be communicated to the Ellington Family.

Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools