Personal Reflections 7/8/2016

Dear IMSA Community,

Thank you to the many of you who sent congratulations for our success in acquiring a stopgap budget through SB 2059. As I replied to many of you, this was a team effort and we are thankful to the Governor and the General Assembly for providing stopgap funding to address our immediate needs.

Following up on my "Good News Friday" email last week, I wanted to share that Governor Rauner signed Senate Bill 2059 Monday morning (April 25). IMSA's share of this higher education appropriation is \$6 million. While we will continue to push for our full year's appropriation, these funds ensure we can continue to pay our amazing staff, address some critically important unpaid bills and cover limited expenses moving forward. We know there's more work to do, but appreciate the Governor and the General Assembly efforts to date.

As with all of my communications on this topic, I want to thank those who have gotten us through this unprecedented year. Despite the budget challenges our staff and faculty have maintained IMSA's level of excellence, our students have remained focused on the tasks in and out of the classroom, our parents have continued to enable us to work with their talented children and provided staunch support of the Academy, and our alumni and supporters have continued to engage and support us.

Very grateful for your support,

José M. Torres, Ph.D.