Dear CEA family,

Times of celebration are also times of reflection...

We are living in challenging and exciting times. The incredible growth in science and technology has shrunk our world and made communication easier but not necessarily deeper.

We seem to always be in a rush and nothing that we do is ever enough. We demandand expect- more and more from ourselves, our spouses, our children, our coworkers and friends.

Our world is going through an economic crisis created by the thought of "more is better" whether we can afford it or not. The bubble has burst and is giving us the opportunity to reassess our values, utilize our talents, put away our fears, and do what needs to be done.

We, you as parents and we as educators, have been given the responsibility of guiding and educating society's future. We need people of values and integrity, people that have the power to think and create, to be themselves. They, our children, need to be given the opportunity to fail so they can succeed, to listen to their inner voices and follow their own paths. They need to be given the opportunity to work hard, to find passion, hope, and faith in their lives. To think about and care for others. To respect and learn from different races, cultures, and traditions. To know that true happiness and fulfillment always come from within. To know who they are and what they can offer, and do their best.

This Christmas I am grateful for the past and present and optimistic for the future. I see 2012 as a year of hard work, reflection and change. We all have a great opportunity to grow and become better people to create a better world.

May the joy and peace of Christmas fill your hearts. May 2012 bring you the wisdom to realize your strength in making your dreams come true.

Blessings and much love.