FLORA M. SINGER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2600 Hayden Drive Silver Spring, Maryland 20902



Office of the Principal

August 10, 2019

Dear Flora M. Singer Families:

As we approach the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you. I trust that you are having an enriched summer filled with fun, sun, relaxation, and reading. It is nearly time for us to return to school and begin another year together.

I look forward to the new school year with excitement and anticipation. It's hard to believe that we are approaching our seventh year as a school community. We have worked together to build a special place for students to learn and grow. This new year will provide us with many more opportunities to celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

We are very excited to open our new playfield! We have been taking care of it all summer and can't wait for the first recess! The soccer field looks fantastic and teachers are excited about the outdoor learning space. Thank you again to our PTA and parents for all their efforts to make this new playfield a reality!

This is also a year of change, as we welcome many new staff members. We are welcoming several new staff:

Susan Astary, Psychologist Stephanie Beard, Para-educator Elica Castro, Para-educator Alexis Fazio, Kindergarten Angela Martin, Staff Development Teacher Timothy McAneny, 5th Grade Learning Center Michelle Pesek, Home School Model (welcome back!) Tamysn Ryan, Para-educator

We also have some staff members taking on new roles. Ms. Christopher and Ms. Taylor are both moving to second grade. Ms. Harding is moving to first grade and Ms. Wilhite is moving to third grade.

We extend a very special thank you to our PTA and its new leadership. Enclosed is information about the PTA. We will also have monthly PTA meetings that I believe you will find helpful and informative. If you are not an active member of the PTA, I strongly encourage you to get involved.

This is going to be a great year as we build upon the success of the past six years. I look forward to seeing you all soon. If there is ever anything that I can do to help you or your child, please feel free to call me.

OPEN HOUSE: Our Annual "Open House" will be Friday, August 30th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for you and your child to walk through the building, locate classrooms, and say "hello" to the teachers and other staff members. Class lists will be posted that afternoon. Following open house we will have an ice cream social on the playground. All are welcome.

<u>FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:</u> Tuesday, September 3rd is the first day of school for students. Students may begin lining up at 9:00 a.m.

<u>BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT:</u> We will have <u>two</u> Back-to-School Nights. Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade will host their Back-to-School Night on Tuesday, September 10th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Kindergarten, First and Second Grade will host their evening on Tuesday, September 17th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

FIRST DAY PACKETS: On the first day of school your child will be bringing home a packet of items including a lunch application, emergency cards, PTA letter, insurance information, etc. Please review these items carefully and return the

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appropriate ones back to school immediately. Keep in mind that we must have an emergency number at all times. *Therefore, as telephone numbers and addresses change, please keep the school informed.*

SUPPLY LISTS: Supply lists are posted on the website, and include everything your child will need to start the school year. All of the lists include required materials and requested donations. Your student will need the required materials. Please feel welcome, but not obligated to donate the requested items to your child's classroom.

AFTER-SCHOOL INFORMATION FORM: We have attached the After School Information Form to this letter. It is important that your child's teacher has the correct dismissal information. Please complete this form and deliver it to your homeroom teacher at Open House on Friday, August 30th.

<u>COMMUNICATION:</u> We maintain open lines of communication with parents and community members throughout the school year. The phone number for the school is 240-740-0330. Please call us at any time. You may also email me at <u>kyle j heatwole@mcpsmd.org</u>. We also send a weekly, one page newsletter home every Thursday to keep you informed of school events and announcements.

SCHOOL HOURS: Students may arrive for morning line up at 9:00 a.m. Students should not arrive prior to that time, as supervision will not be available. School hours are as follows:

Grades PreK-5

9:25 a.m. - 3:50 p.m.

<u>LUNCH/BREAKFAST PROGRAM</u>: Students in grades K-5 may bring lunch or purchase one at school. Our breakfast program is free to all students and available in the classroom every morning. Attached is a detailed description of our SNAP lunch program including a price list. The menu for the first week of school is also attached. Please feel free to place it in a place where it is accessible to your family, like on your refrigerator.

<u>IMMUNIZATIONS/MEDICATIONS</u>: It is very important that your child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations. If you are not sure, please check with your doctor. The state law mandates that children <u>not</u> be admitted to school without the proper immunizations. **Medications must be brought to school in the original container by an adult along with MCPS Form 525-13 (Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication) completed by your physician. Medication will not be administered without proper authorization. Please contact our Health Technician if you have any questions.**

Again, enjoy the rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing each of you very soon.

Sincerely,

Kyle J. Heatwole Principal

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Summary of Important First Quarter Dates:

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	Friday, August 30	Open House from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
	Monday, September 2	Labor Day-No school for students
	Tuesday, September 3	First Day of School 9:25 am to 3:50 p.m.
	Tuesday, September 10	Intermediate Back-to-School Night 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
	Thursday, September 17	Primary Back-to-School Night 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
	Thursday, September 26	Picture Day-Individual Portraits
	Monday, September 30	Professional Day-no school for students
	Tuesday, October 1	PTA Parent Meeting-7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
	Friday, October 4	Early Release-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m.
	Monday, October 7	Open House-visit your child's classroom
>	October 8-October 19	Read-A-Thon
>	October 24-October 31	Book Fair
	Thursday, October 31	Fall Festival Parade and Parties starting at 2:30 p.m.
>	Thursday November 9	PTA Parent Meeting-7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
	Friday, November 8	Half Day-Parent/Teacher conferences-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
	Monday, November 11	Half Day-Parent/Teacher conferences-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
	Tuesday, November 12	Half Day-Parent/Teacher conferences-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
	Thursday, November 14	Fall Picture Retakes