

January 4, 2012

**Dear Cloverly Families:**

**Happy New Year!!** I hope you had a restful winter break and were able to spend quality time with your family and friends.

As a reminder, I will be serving as Cloverly's Acting Principal between now and Feb. 17, 2012. Mrs. Susan Barranger, Principal at Washington Grove Elementary, will be the Acting Assistant Principal. During this time, Ms. Brunson will be the Acting Assistant Principal at Sherwood Elementary and will return here on Feb. 21, 2012. I look forward to the opportunity to work with the staff and students at Cloverly, while growing and developing my skills as a school leader.

**Maryland School Assessment (MSA) and Terra Nova 2 (TN2) Testing are coming up soon.** It is important for all students to be present during the administration of these tests. Please do not schedule doctor appointments or vacations during these times:

MSA Reading and Math (Grades 3 & 4) - March 12, 13, 16, 19

MSA Reading and Math (Grade 5) - March 14, 15, 20, 21

MSA Science (Grade 5) - April 30, May 1, 2, 3, 4

TN2 (Grade 2) - April 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

**Cloverly Traffic Circle (for parents who drop-off and pick-up children during arrival and dismissal):**

In order for a safe and orderly flow of traffic during arrival and dismissal, the following rules need to be adhered to by everyone:

1. Parents must drive slowly and safely.
2. Children must exit and enter a vehicle at curbside, rather than walking between cars.
3. Parents must drive toward the end of the traffic circle at curbside, allowing other vehicles to have enough space to drop-off or pick-up children. (This helps to avoid traffic backups on Briggs Chaney Road.)
4. Parents may not leave their vehicles unattended while in the traffic circle.

At least one staff member is on duty every morning and afternoon to monitor the traffic circle. By working together, we can make sure all children arrive and leave school safely. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

**Winter Weather:**

Mother nature has reminded us these past few days that winter is here! We ask that you send your children to school prepared to go outside for recess. This includes warm coats, hats, and gloves or

mittens. We go outside every day except when the temperature is below 32 degrees or when snow or rain keeps us indoors. Also, please mark your child's clothing with his/her name.

In addition, all announcements about school closings or delayed openings due to weather conditions are made as early as possible, generally in time for news broadcasts that begin at 5 a.m. Early release announcements are made by 11 a.m. Please tune-in to local radio or television stations or MCPS Channel 34 for information regarding school closings, delays and early releases. You can also obtain information at the Schools Out website ([www.schools-out.com](http://www.schools-out.com)).

**Grade 5 Musical:**

Our fifth graders have been working very hard in preparation for the 5th grade musical, "Go West!", to be held here on Jan. 26, 2012, at 7 p.m. Please join us for a wonderful evening! A special thank you to our music teacher, Mrs. Harrill-Taylor, for directing this show.

**May all of you have a healthy, prosperous, and enjoyable new year!**

**Sincerely,**

**Gay Melnick**

**Acting Principal**