

Dear Cloverly Parents,

We hope that all of you had the opportunity to relax and spend time with your families during the Thanksgiving break.

Many thanks go to our wonderful PTA who provided delicious snacks for our staff at parent conference time. We appreciated this token of appreciation during this busy time of the year.

As we had mentioned at a previous PTA meeting, there are two main focus goals included in our school improvement plan (SIP):

- Students in grades 3-5, **with an emphasis on African American, Hispanic, Limited English Proficient, and Special Education populations**, will demonstrate increased academic achievement and performance in reading (96% and above) on MSA.
- Students in grades 3-5, **with an emphasis on African American, Hispanic, Special Education, and FARMS populations**, will demonstrate increased academic achievement and performance in math (95% or above) on MSA.

An analysis of the achievement data revealed that our students continue to make gains in both achievement areas. Ongoing progress of students is monitored at Data Chat meetings, leadership meetings, grade level team meetings, and at staff meetings. To view a copy of our SIP, please go to our website at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cloverlyes/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cloverlyes/).

As discussed at the PTA meeting and at the Principal/Parent Coffees back in November, our staff is also taking additional steps to address the achievement gap issue noted in our SIP through the installation of an Equity Team. We look forward to sharing updates of the Equity Team's work at the December PTA meeting.

Starting the week of January 3, 2012, our students in grades 3-5 will be taking the MSA practice test in the areas of reading and math. We will use the assessment results to prepare focused instruction for the upcoming months leading to the actual test, which is scheduled to take place in March 2012. Therefore, it is highly imperative that students come to school, on time, and in attendance, during this time. We thank you for your cooperation.

Our *Lost and Found* is full and overflowing! We have many coats, jackets, hats, shirts, lunch boxes, etc. Please have your students "find" their "lost" articles. When you visit the school, you may wish to check yourself. The *Lost and Found* is located near the main office area.

Use the following resources for information regarding early dismissal, late, or delayed opening:

- MCPS Cable TV Channel 34 (Comcast)
- MCPS Emergency Hotline 301-279-3643
- MCPS Webpage, [www.mcps.k12.md.us](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us)
- Local Radio and Television Stations

**Important Announcement!** I, Ms. Brunson, will be leaving Cloverly during the timeframe of January 3 – February 10, 2012, to serve as the acting assistant principal at Sherwood Elementary School. During my temporary absence, Mrs. Melnick will be serving as acting principal here at Cloverly Elementary School. This will give Ms. Melnick the opportunity to extend and enrich her experiences when she becomes a school principal. Ms. Susan Barranger, current principal at Washington Grove Elementary School, will be serving as Cloverly's acting assistant principal.

Congratulations to Steffi Jost, primary Autism teacher, for earning her National Teaching Board Certification. She is one of three teachers at Cloverly who received this outstanding honor.

Happy holidays and best of wishes as you celebrate and bring in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Melissa Brunson, Principal  
Gay Melnick, Principal Intern