



Cloverly Elementary School

800 Briggs Chaney Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301-989-5770



September 1, 2009

Dear Cloverly Families,

Three cheers to a successful first week at Cloverly! I am overjoyed with our 500+ students' enthusiasm and eagerness to learn as we begin our school year.

Since August, we've had the following staff changes:

- Melissa Ramsey, previous paraeducator in the autism program, is working as a paraeducator at Earle B. Wood Middle School.
- Michelle Bowie, Cloverly parent volunteers and long-term substitute, will be working as a paraeducator in the autism program.
- Samantha Dumman, recent college graduate, will be working as a paraeducator in the autism program and as a recess/lunch aide.
- Theresa Wellens and Theresa Mooney, Cloverly parent volunteers, will be working as lunch/recess aides.

Have you noticed all of the new technology (Promethean boards and carts with laptops and mini-notebooks) that have been installed in majority of the classrooms at Cloverly? We are thrilled to be participating in the 21st Century Action Research Project with the MCPS Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO). The purpose of this project is to research innovative approaches to elementary education by incorporating new technologies and an inquiry based pedagogical model that supports all learners.

The goals of this project are:

- To use technology to provide every student with access to individualized, rigorous, and relevant learning to prepare all students for the 21st century.
- To provide ongoing, meaningful professional development around technology that leads to changes in teaching and curriculum implementation.
- To research and evaluate these innovative approaches in elementary education.

At Cloverly, we strive to maintain a positive and safe environment in which optimal learning can take place. Each student should have received the comprehensive Behavior Management Plan. Please read over its contents and share them with your children. Please sign and return the last page to your child's teacher as soon as possible. .

On behalf of the Cloverly staff, I would like to thank Kim Billok, PTA president, for decorating the front office. We hope that the warm and inviting atmosphere will give our parents and visitors a sense of welcome when they enter our front office.

We believe that the success we have with each child will depend on the cooperative efforts of home and school. The best way that parents can support their children's education is through active participation. We encourage you to become involved in school and PTA activities. Working in partnership, we will effectively maintain the high standards of excellence at Cloverly Elementary School.

Ms. Conley and I look forward to personally greeting each of you at our "Back to School" night on **Wednesday, September 16, 2009**. The *revised* schedule is as follows:

- 6:30-7:25 Grades K, 1, & 2 (PEP & Autism)
- 7:30-8:00 Staff Introductions and Presentation
- 8:05-9:00 Grades 3, 4, & 5

The MCPS board of education is holding two public forums to provide parents, staff, students, and community members the opportunity to give their input on important issues affecting Montgomery County Public Schools. The forums will take place on **Thursday, September 17, 2009**, at Quince Orchard High School and on **Thursday, October 15, 2009**, at John F. Kennedy High School.

Again, *Welcome Back!* I am optimistic that the 2009-10 school year to be an exciting year for everyone.

Sincerely,
Ms. Melissa Brunson
Principal