August 13, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As summer quickly comes to an end, we are preparing to open! We are working hard to prepare the building for the first day of school on **Monday, August 31, 2015**! Earlier this summer, we sent letters home to all of our families with the school supply list and their teacher assignment for school year 2015-2016. Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:00pm, families may come to meet their teacher, drop off school supplies and enjoy a delicious ice cream treat.

All students are expected to arrive by 7:45am each morning. This includes Pre-Kindergarten. There is no staggered entry for Pre-K or Kindergarten on the first day of school. Breakfast will be available daily at 7:30am in the cafeteria. Please see the map below for the assigned grade-level doors. The areas with a star represent safe areas to drop off your children.



We would like to welcome three new staff members this year: Thomas Rucinski, Bridget Becker and Reginald Brown. Mr. Rucinski will be teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this year. Ms. Becker will be teaching Kindergarten and Mr. Brown will be a Para Professional Educator working with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. We would also like to congratulate Ms. Ashley and the Gilley family on their new addition, Camden, and Mr.

Poknis and family on their new addition, Cecelia! We are thrilled with our new members of our MHES family!

We have several forms of communication available for our families at Medfield. Please take note of the following ways to receive information: our school website, <a href="http://www.baltimorecityschools.org/249">http://www.baltimorecityschools.org/249</a>, Medfield Heights Elementary (Facebook page), Medfield Heights ES (Twitter page), mass emails, mass texts, bi-monthly newsletters, and flyers. New this year will be a way to add family members who are not listed as primary contacts to our mailing lists. Please look for a contact form at the beginning of the school year.

Over the summer we've established a fantastic new partnership. We will be working closely with the Child First Authority to begin to develop our school into a true Community School as we begin to plan and design a new building that works for our whole community. We will provide opportunities for families to become part of the design team for our new building. Look for flyers labeled "21<sup>st</sup> Century Building Meeting," throughout the school year. This organization will help us as we develop programs such as food pantries, GED classes, English Classes, after-school opportunities, extended mental health options, and many other services the community needs. For more information about this organization, you can visit <a href="https://www.childfirstauthority.org">www.childfirstauthority.org</a>.

We will continue to offer our after school programs this year such as Lego Robotics, STEM club, Art Club, Computer Club, Girls in the Game, Pep Squad, Choir, School Store Club, School Safeties and other clubs. Be sure to check your child's book bag for the sign-ups for the after school clubs.

Our Parent Volunteer Committee is stronger than ever before! They've been meeting over the summer to plan various types of fundraisers and events for our students. The first Volunteer Meeting of the school year is Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm in the library. If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer please contact Ms. Heather Rogers at heather\_rogers718@yahoo.com.

We hope that you take the last few weeks of summer to plan excellent adventures and relax! If you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact Principal Amber Kilcoyne at <a href="mailto:akilcoyne@bcps.k12.md.us">akilcoyne@bcps.k12.md.us</a> or call 410-396-6460. We cannot wait to begin another amazing school year at Medfield Heights Elementary School!

Sincerely,

Amber Kilcoyne Principal

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