



Report to Parents 2018-2019

The 2018-2019 school year has been one filled with new energy and opportunities to grow our student leaders. With new Patriots on board and familiar, dedicated staff as well, we embarked upon *The Leader in Me*. This is leadership initiative focuses on the Seven Habits of Happy Kids. These seven habits are:

- Habit 1: Be Proactive
- Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind
- Habit 3: Put First Things First
- Habit 4: Think Win/Win
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood
- Habit 6: Synergize
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

Our students are speaking, singing and living these seven habits daily. We hope that you will hear them discuss the habits in your homes as well.

Our teachers have continued to grow in their Professional Learning Communities. They have been afforded additional planning time each week as well as training through *The Leader in Me*, our school district, and National Conferences such as *Teach Your Heart Out*. Our district's PLC conference has provided a strong foundation for our teams to building upon.

Our School Improvement Council has worked in conjunction with our PTA on various opportunities to grow our school community and partnerships with local businesses. Our PTA hosted several successful events including "Grilling with Grandparents" and the "Jingle Jam." Both organizations are looking forward to serving you and listening to your ideas that will make our school the best.

We will continue to find opportunities for our students to grow academically as well as in the arts. It is imperative that we provide our students with the 21st Century Skills that are so critical to their ability to compete globally. This year, students were able to participate in organizations such as the Junior Beta Club, Student Council and Chorus. Our fifth grade students were the first class in Independence history to participate in an overnight field trip. Students are competing in local competitions such as the Science Bowl and regional competitions such as the Scripps Spelling Bee. We are proud of all of their accomplishments.

We cannot make all of these wonderful things happen alone. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in the future!

Kimberly Odom, Ed.S.
Principal

Angela Toms
SIC Chair