

M.C. RILEY ELEMENTARY & EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

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April 24, 2016

Dear Parents,

As a *Learning Through Leadership* school of choice in Beaufort County School District, we are on a journey of incorporating Steven Covey's seven effective habits to build individual accountability and academic achievement for all students. We teach and practice an inside out model of personal development: be proactive; begin with the end in mind; put first things first; think win win; seek first to understand, then be understood; synergize; and sharpen the saw. Students in each class create a Mission Statement to guide their learning. Each Mission Statement supports our school-wide goal of improving performance in English Language Arts and math fluency. Each quarter students define Wildly Important Goals (WIGS) to chart their progress towards meeting academic and personal milestones. Students share their goals and achievements with family members during student led conferences and quarterly celebrations. Our school established an application process for students to apply for leadership roles within our daily life as a school, and during celebrations. Students applied to become tour guides, narrators, greeters, organizers, TV crew, photographers, support staff, and featured speakers. On March 30, 2016, we hosted our first School Leadership Day, an event that brought more than 125 community members, BCSD leaders, and parents together to learn about our school, our students and our progress towards shared goals! Through our together is better synergy, we created a community of self-directed, goal oriented learners.

We reach out to our students and community to support higher levels of achievement. Students participated in a STEM Summer Enrichment Camp during the summer of 2015 to front load content area vocabulary. During the 2015- 2016 school year our Beyond School Day program, offering morning and after school opportunities for homework assistance, STEM enrichment, LEGO League, Imagination Foundation, and Arts Clubs. Parents were invited to attend a 10-week course in language literacy through the Latino Family Project. This intense course engaged parents in sharing literature, ideas, and fellowship with one another while building connections with the school.

Our approach to education includes a rigorous integrated curriculum, kindergarten through fifth grade STEM lab and classroom instruction, Learning Through Leadership, and parent workshops. We are a Silver Award winning school raising achievement across all sub-groups!

Sincerely,

Adrienne Sutton
Principal

Brenda Hunt
SIC Chairperson