



April 15, 2017

Dear Marshall Primary School Parents,

What a wonderful time to be at Marshall Primary School! We have so many positive changes to be excited about and so many successes to celebrate. I would like to take this time to celebrate these areas of progress that our school and School Improvement Council have made in the goals and objectives of our School Renewal Plan.

This year we had the privilege of offering Breakfast in the Classroom to all students. With this implementation, we have doubled the number of students who are now able to eat breakfast at school. We also implemented new Standards Based Report Cards for Kindergarten - Second Grade. This has allowed our teachers and parents to have a better understanding of their child's progress throughout the year. This, along with our Primary and Lower Elementary Montessori classes, has strengthened our growth towards a personalized learning approach at Marshall Primary School.

In looking at our assessment data, our Kindergarten – Second grade has shown substantial improvement from Fall to Spring on our Reading and Math i-Ready assessments, as well as their Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark reading assessment. Our Pre-Kindergarten students have also shown tremendous growth on both their DIAL-4 (Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning) screening and PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) assessment. The hard work displayed by our teachers, staff and students this year has truly paid off, and we are so proud of them!

In addition to our academic success, our school continues to make our students' social development a top priority. With the continued implementation of our *Responsive Classroom* program, we have been intentionally focusing on relationship building and a whole-child approach. We also began a new school-wide TEAM approach to our PBIS system, which kicked-off at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. This focus combined school discipline and community building by creating relationships between students across all grade levels. Each month we also took time to celebrate students through our MPS Hall of Fame and MPS Birthday Club.

We have also seen improvements in other areas related to our school climate. While the 2015-2016 school year did see a slight drop in student attendance, we are confident that new measures put in place will help us show continued improvement for the 2016-2017 school year. In addition, parent involvement specifically during our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, ART and Math) Night was an opportunity for parents to come in and work with

their child on reading and math strategies, using a hands-on approach. Literacy Day and Parent Reading Workshops gave an opportunity for parents to come in the school, learn more about working with their child at home, and supplied free books and games for parents to use at home. To combat Summer reading loss, we are excited to hold a free book fair for our students before the end of the year so that every child has new books to take home and read with their family.

We are excited about the 2017-2018 school year at Marshall Primary School. We will continue to refine our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) approach to school discipline and implement more common standards-based assessments throughout each grade level.

Thank you for your continued support as we work hard to improve, and provide your child with a world-class education that builds their foundation for the future as a 21st Century Graduate ready for college or career.

Sincerely,

Jenifer B. Fleming, Principal

Norma Hughes-Smith, SIC Chairperson