



April 30, 2016

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 adding 3 full-day Pre-Kindergarten classes to our school, each serving 20 children. We also added a Lower Elementary Montessori class that now serves our students in first and second grade who have come through the Primary Montessori program. We know that the addition of these two areas will help us as we continue to nurture the whole child here at Marshall Primary.

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 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 have also begun planning a new approach to our PBIS system, which will kick off the first day of the 2016-2017 school year.

Because of this, we have seen improvements in other areas related to our school climate. While the 2014-2015 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 2015-2016 school year. In addition, parent involvement specifically during our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Night and Literacy Night was an opportunity for parents to come in and work with their child on reading and math strategies, using a hands-on approach. Our school continues to monitor our performance using National Standards of Parent/Family Involvement to nurture family-friendly schools for success, as well as Joyce Epstein's Framework of Six Types of Parent/Family Involvement.

We are excited about the 2016-2017 school year at Marshall Primary School. We will be kicking off an innovative PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) approach to school discipline and community building that will include teams and weekly meetings so that students have an opportunity to build vertical relationships with others at Marshall Primary.

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.

Sincerely,

Jenifer B. Fleming, Principal