

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

September 24, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Maryland Family Engagement Month—October 2012

WHEREAS, Our children are our most valuable resources and are the key to our future economic and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers and have high hopes and dreams for their children's future; and

WHEREAS, Research illustrates that when parents are involved in their children's education, students have better attendance rates, increased motivation, higher grades, and a greater chance of attending college; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools encourages parent and family involvement in the school community to support children's education, healthy development, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, All school system staff members are available to assist families with information and support to ensure parents, guardians, and caregivers may engage fully in their children's education; and

WHEREAS, When parents and schools supported by the community in shared partnership work together, our children benefit and become lifelong learners and contribute positively to our society; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools provides opportunities for parents to engage with school system staff by attending Back-to-School Nights, the Open House for K-12, parent-teacher conferences, and other activities scheduled throughout the school year; and

WHEREAS, Parents may find answers to their questions by using the Parent Guide, which is available on the Montgomery County Public Schools website; attending Parent Academy workshops; participating in Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Parents' Council events; attending

school system events and community forums events such as the State of Schools or a Board of Education meeting; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools also connects with parents and students through MCPS *QuickNotes* e-mail newsletters, the Montgomery County Public Schools website, Montgomery County Public Schools Television Channel 34, Twitter, and Edline in the secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, The importance of parent engagement in education requires not only recognition, but a firm commitment in our policies and actions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby declare the month of October 2012 to be Maryland Family Engagement Month, and encourage families, staff, and community members to recognize the importance of the home-school partnership to improve student learning and school performance.

JPS:daf