



August 17, 2018



Dear Cloverly Elementary School Community:

We hope you are having a great summer and are excited for the new school year at Cloverly Elementary School. While it has been a challenging few years for the entire Cloverly community, including our staff, parents, and most importantly our students, we are optimistic about the future of our school. We appreciate all that everyone has done to help prepare for the new school year, and we look forward to continued collaboration in support of our students.

As many of you know, during the spring and early summer a small group of parents and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) leaders met several times to address critical issues impacting Cloverly. This work group focused on a number of important topics, including communication, safety and security, screening and hiring, as well as training. These are crucial areas that we know will be key to a successful 2018–2019 school year at Cloverly.

The work group has concluded its meetings, and although we did not resolve every issue, we did come together to find practical solutions to many of the communication and safety concerns that were raised last spring in our community. Some measures we took right away, such as adding counseling support at Cloverly and implementing magnetic locking strips for classroom doors. Additionally, Cloverly will benefit from upcoming systemwide changes including an upgraded access control system to manage who enters the building, a new visitor management system in the front office, and additional security cameras at our school. Installation of these security infrastructure enhancements will begin this fall. We also received excellent feedback from our parents on the work group about ways to improve MCPS communication efforts from the central office, which the district will be implementing in the coming school year.

We all agree we are committed to the success of Cloverly Elementary School, and this collaborative process has enabled us to enhance and strengthen our work in support of Cloverly. As we continue to make strides in communication and safety and security, we ask that everyone stay dedicated to and focused on our primary goal—the success and welfare of our students. We firmly believe that our shared commitment to our kids will provide a solid foundation for growth, the restoration of trust, and the participation of all members of our school community in shaping what we want for the future. We are all united in wanting the best for our students and are willing to work together towards that goal.

Thank you again for all that you do on behalf of Cloverly Elementary School. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Michael D. Bayewitz, our new principal, to the Cloverly community and wish you the best for the remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,

Heather Spyrou, PTA President 2018-2019
Brad Behr, PTA President 2016-2018
Andrew Zuckerman, MCPS Chief Operating Officer