December 5, 2019

Dear Flower Valley ES Parents and Guardians:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has released the 2019 accountability report card for every school in the state of Maryland. The 2019 Maryland Report Card for **Flower Valley Elementary School** can be found at this link:<https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/Graphs/#/ReportCards/ReportCardSchool/1/E/1/15/0506/>The report card for Montgomery County Public Schools can be found [here](https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/Graphs/#/ReportCards/ReportCardSchool/1/E/1/15/XXXX).

The Maryland Report Card is designed to evaluate school success in several ways, measuring state test results in English Language Arts and math; postsecondary readiness; progress of English learners in achieving English language proficiency; graduation rate; and students with access to and earning credit for a well-rounded curriculum.

It is important to note that additional performance indicators have been added to the 2019 Maryland Report Card. For elementary and middle schools, the Academic Progress indicator now includes student performance on the state science tests for Grades 5 and 8. The School Quality and Student Success indicator now includes the results of the Maryland School Survey, a survey of students and educators. In addition, on each Report Card, there is now an indication as to whether a school improved its performance on each indicator, compared to the previous school year. In future years, the Maryland Report Card will also include the social studies assessment in Grade 8.

Below are a few resources to help you understand the Maryland Report Card:

* [MCPS Video – Understanding the Maryland Report Card](https://youtu.be/LQfP-yrvXDw)
* [MSDE Report Card Overview](https://publisher.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/pdf/MSDE_ReportCard_Overview_2019.pdf)
* [Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/publicinfo/FrequentlyAskedQuestionsMSDEREPORTCARD.pdf)

As Superintendent of Schools Jack Smith shared last year, while the Maryland Report Card does provide important information about our schools, it provides a limited view of the progress of our more than 165,000 students.

To better understand how our schools are serving all of our students, MCPS has developed an [Equity Accountability Model](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/evidence-of-learning-framework/equity-accountability-model.aspx) that provides a more detailed and focused report of school success. The Equity Accountability Model uses [multiple and frequent measures](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/evidence-of-learning-framework/) of students’ progress to determine if a school is meeting the needs of ALL students, with a special emphasis on reducing and eliminating disparities in student achievement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Gay E. Melnick

Principal