March 2020

Dear Ridgely Middle School Students and Families,

The first semester has provided us with many positive experiences. We had 722 (65%) students earn honor roll status for the second marking period. Additionally, we had 190 (17%) students earn straight A’s during the second quarter. We are also very proud of our students who continue to demonstrate excellent attendance. These students were recognized with certificates. Furthermore, I am very proud of our students from each grade level who have been recognized as Students of the Month based on the following character education traits: Respect, Compassion, Adaptability, Honesty, Optimism, and Loyalty.

Our students did an excellent job on their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment as 77% of our students achieved above the 50th percentile in math and 83% of our students achieved above the 50th percentile in reading. Additionally, 64% of our students achieved their individual growth target in reading and 64% of students attained their respective growth target in math. The results indicate that our students will be ready and prepared for their MCAP assessment. On Friday, students found out on the morning announcements who won the Ridgely Mega Buck incentives for MAP testing.

Our amazing and talented Student Government Association (SGA) members coordinated a spirit week for this week. Each day will include a different theme for students to demonstrate their school spirit. The week will end with the first Ridgely pep rally to showcase our school pride and celebrate our amazing students.

Our seventh and eighth grade students eligible for the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) received letters and applications on Monday, March 2. Applications are due back to Ms. Hartlieb by Friday, March 20. Students will receive acceptance letters on April 2 and our NJHS Induction Ceremony will be held on April 22 at 6:00 p.m. in our gymnasium.

We will continue to prepare for the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) in April. Additionally, our eighth graders will take Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) on March 25 and March 26.

It is almost half-way through the third marking period. RMS families will receive an email with a link to sign up for parent conferences scheduled on Wednesday, March 11 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.
**Schoology**
Our teachers are updating grade reports on Schoology on a regular basis. This system allows parents to access student grades, calendar information, and homework assignments on a regular basis. Also, information can be accessed @TeamRidgely and @BarishSeth on Twitter, and our website [https://ridgelyms.bcps.org](https://ridgelyms.bcps.org).

**Still Time to take the BCPS Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey**
Taking the annual BCPS Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey is a quick way to let us know what you think about this school, demonstrate support for BCPS, and help the school system meet its’ goal of preparing and graduating globally competitive students.

Available online and extended until March 11, 2020 at the BCPS Web site ([www.bcps.org](https://www.bcps.org)), the survey is confidential and available in several languages. The survey has also been customized so that there are different (but related) questions for school-based staff, parents, students, community members and central office staff.

We want our Ridgely families’ voices to be reflected in the survey. Your feedback is critical and we value your input.

Sincerely,

Seth Barish
Principal