

March 2019

Dear Ridgely Middle School Students, Staff, and Families,

I am hoping that today is the last of our snow and spring is just around the corner. The first semester has provided us with many positive experiences. We had 708 (61%) students earn honor roll status for the second marking period. Additionally, we had 182 (16%) students earn straight A's during the second quarter. 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. In partnership with Carver High School carpentry students, we have received the picnic tables for our outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom was designed by former seventh grade students through a project-based learning activity two years ago. Once we have nice weather, teachers may sign up to take their classes outside to use the outdoor classroom. In addition to students and staff, we hope our outdoor classroom will be enjoyed by members of our neighborhood community.

Our students did an excellent job on their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment as 77% of our students achieved above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in math and 79% of our students achieved above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in reading. The results indicate that our students will be ready and prepared for their PARCC assessment.

We will continue to prepare for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) in April. Our randomly selected eighth grade students will take the NAEP assessment on March 7, 2019. Additionally, our eighth graders will take Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) on March 19 and March 20.

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 13 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>.

### **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 until March 6, 2019 at the BCPS Web site ([www.bcps.org](http://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.

Seth Barish  
Principal