

November 2018

Dear Ridgely Middle School Students and Families,

The month of November offers parents and guardians opportunities to participate in their children's middle school experience. The first marking period ends on November 9th which will be a half-day for our students. Report cards will be distributed on November 16th. This is an excellent time for parents and students to review grades and set goals for the second quarter. American Education Week begins on November 12th and I would like to encourage all parents and guardians to attend. We have a tremendous amount of parent involvement at Ridgely Middle School. Parental involvement is a critical factor in student achievement and the success of a school. The schedule for American Education Week includes the following: Grade 6 A-M visitation on Monday, November 12th and Grade 6 N-Z on Tuesday, November 13th, Grade 7 visitation on Wednesday, November 14th, and Grade 8 visitation will be held on Thursday, November 15th. We would like to encourage our visitors to share their thanks and feedback with our staff during American Education Week. We will provide all visitors a reflection form that we will share with our wonderful teachers.

Our teachers are updating grade reports on BCPS One Schoology on a regular basis. This system allows parents to access student grades, calendar information, and homework assignments. If you have any questions related to Schoology, please contact Mr. Ayres at jayres@bcps.org. Also, important information can be accessed on our website <https://ridgelyms.bcps.org> and Twitter @TeamRidgely, and @BarishSeth.

I am excited to share that we began a new program to celebrate student success at Ridgely Middle School. Two boys and two girls from each grade will be selected by the grade level teacher and recognized as Students of the Month. Each month different students will be selected based on the character trait of the month. The character trait for September was Respect.

We are going to have our 1st Annual Turkey Trot Fundraiser on Saturday, November 17th. This is a great opportunity to promote our Ridgely pride in the community. Please have your child, friends, and family members register. We are hoping for a great turnout.

Our attendance rate for the first marking period is 97%. Students who have perfect attendance for the first quarter will be recognized with a Perfect Attendance certificate. We will continue to celebrate our fantastic students.

I would like to continue to encourage all of our parents to join the PTA and support all PTA activities. We have an outstanding PTA and this organization contributes considerable time, effort, and financial support to our educational programs. Our students and staff members benefit from their hard work. If you have not joined the PTA, please consider joining as soon as possible.

I hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends!

Seth Barish
Principal