

September 23, 2013

Dear Bromwell Families,

Last week we held a school based community meeting for parents and members of the Design Advisory Group (DAG.) Attached is the presentation given by DeVita Bruce, Director of Operations, Outreach and Engagement. Hopefully, you will find the presentation helpful in understanding the beginning stages of the open plan construction. At the end of the presentation is a Q & A section, which presents parent questions that DeVita addressed. Our DAG will begin monthly meetings, directed by the architect for the project. Minutes of those meetings will be made available on the soon to be DAG link, which will be on our web site.

Our fantastic teachers and students are busy administering fall assessments, which includes the following:

- o K-3 Developmental Reading Assessment (normed benchmark books that establishes a specific level of proficiency aligned with that grade level)
- o K-5 STAR Reading Assessment (computerized reading assessment that measures, specific reading skills and comprehension)
- o 2-5 Interim Assessment for Writing and Math (measures skills specific to the content along with constructed responses to measure understandings)

We are confident that this information will enable us to determine a baseline of proficiency in both Literacy and Math. We look forward to sharing this information with you in the near future. Remember, to mark your calendars for conferences that will be held on October 3rd and October 10th from 4-8pm. Teachers will be receiving a compensation day on Oct.14th and we will return on October 15th for professional development and planning.

In addition, teachers and students are getting ready to launch revised Instructional Units of study as they align to the Common Core State Standards. Each of these units identify Key Knowledge, Strategies, and Skills. Furthermore they specifically outline essential learning goals, how to build conceptual understandings and the academic language to be used during oral and written classroom discussions. These units will support both teachers and students with learning and instruction. I have attached a link on the Common Core State Standards that you may find helpful in obtaining more information regarding the Common Core.

Finally, I just wanted to touch on the topic of enrollment. Our projected enrollment for this year was 314. Each year before our School Based Budgets are released, I work with an analyst from the Department of Planning with DPS to examine data which determines projected enrollment for the following year. This year, our actual enrollment was 309. Since we were under projected enrollment by 5 students, our

school needed to “pay back” the district \$20,000, which is based on approximately \$4,000/child. Fortunately we had some carry forward dollars from our 2012-2013 budget and funding in my administrative account to cover the fall adjustment cost. The school budget for 2013-2014 remains untouched with all staffing and supplies budgeted as per our CSC from last year.

I hope you and your families have a good week!

Best,

Jody Cohn

Bromwell Principal