

April Brown, Principal Shana Pryor, Climate Manager 215-684-5073

Dear Families and Friends of Waring:

Over the past two years, we've made significant investments at Waring Elementary including securing Chrome Books for students and adding a literacy coach and climate manager to our staff as well as investments from The Spring Garden CDC in PlayWorks.

This has given us the ability to deliver an improved education to all our students, and there are clear signs that these important investments and the instructional strategies they support are working:

- Our overall School Progress Report improved from 16% to 22%.
- Our students' academic achievement and growth has improved as evidenced by our School Progress Report and PSSA Scores. Our Progress Domain improved from 10% to 37% and our Achievement Domain improved from 8% to 11%.

We also know from what you tell us that we're making an impact.

- Based on parent surveys we scored an 82% (Model) indicating that our climate and culture is on an upward trend.
- Based on student surveys, students are now taking more accountability for their learning and are holding staff members accountable as well.

Our school isn't alone in making great strides. There has been tremendous progress in public schools across Philadelphia.

Our student test scores are outpacing state averages. Our graduation rate is the highest it's been in more than a decade. And each of our schools is focused on challenging students academically and providing the support they need to succeed.

But for all the good news, we all know our work is not done. The new School District budget calls for funding that can make even bigger impacts. This includes investments to support: more individualized attention for all students, expansion of our early-literacy focus to 4th and 5th grades, and targeted supports so all students can stay on track and graduate on time.

With the additional funding, families at our school can expect a Parent Engagement Center stocked with resources to support academic goals, behavioral goals and social-emotional learning goals with assistance from our FACE (Family and Community Engagement) Liaison.

Thank you for being our most important partner in your child's education. With that said, we are also strategically planning to improve attendance each and every day. If your child is present each day of the week, you and your child, will be entered into a raffle to win \$25 gift cards on May 31st and June 8. Be an #attendancehero!

I look forward to hearing from you about how your child is doing. It always makes my day.

In Solidarity, Principal Brown, L.W. Waring Elementary School