

# Howard Elementary

1611 N. York  
Dearborn, MI

August 21, 2019

Dear Howard Families,

We are so excited to be gearing up for another wonderful school year! There are many positive changes going on and we look forward to sharing them with you as the school year starts!

First we would like congratulate Ms. Turk on her move to becoming our new media specialist. While we will miss having her in the classroom, her new role will allow her to support even more of our students. Ms. Philips will also no longer be with us and she will be missed. We wish her the best in her new endeavors and she has promised to come back and visit. We have the pleasure to welcome Ms. Currie and Ms. Kerby as our new second grade teachers. Ms. Currie comes to us from William Ford and Ms. Kerby from DuVall. Both teachers come with great teaching experience and a passion for the educational profession.

Our Howard family continues to grow. We have seen an increase in enrollment at our school. We are extremely proud of the continued success that our strong school community partnership has achieved in supporting high levels of academic and developmental accomplishments for our students and we will continue to do so. It humbles me to be a part of this amazing team. It is our strong partnership and reputation for excellence that continues to attract families to our school.

Due to district budgetary constraints resulting from state funding allocations, there are many difficult staffing decisions that are being made across Dearborn Public Schools. In our continued efforts of operating our school with transparency, we are sharing some information regarding classroom allotments with you. Attributable to our increased enrollment at Howard, along with functioning within the district's budgetary constraints; a multi-age classroom may have to be formed at our school pending our final classroom counts. Please understand that **no decisions** have been made as of yet, and we will continue to monitor our enrollment and maintain communication with you along the way. We reiterate that **until we have a clearer picture of our student enrollment numbers, no decisions will be made.** We will continue to work with minimal disruption to our classrooms.

Students will attend school on Monday, August 26 assigned to the class lists that will be posted on Friday, August 23 at 5 pm. We ask that you have faith in the fact that the best interest of our students will be at the ***forefront*** of any decisions that are reached.

This year promises to be another amazing year. Our teachers have participated in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) training over the summer and we will start our first day of teacher professional development working to expand collaborative conversations and instruction to support ALL of our students. We will also be implementing Mindfulness as a piece of our PBIS initiative to focus on social emotional learning. In addition, we will be expanding our student council initiative and continue our amazing student centered programs of Robotics, Newspaper Club, Chess, Safety, Service Squad, STAND, Green Schools, Recycling Program, and City Beautiful.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday, August 26, 2019!

Don't forget to continue checking the school blog for additional information regarding our first weeks of school over the next two days.

**Howard – Pride**

**Dragons – Achieve**

In Partnership,

Mrs. Lazar