



April 1, 2015

Dear Families of DCPS Students,

In this packet you will find enrollment forms for your student for the 2015/2016 school year. Please note that we ask you to return the completed forms as early as possible to school, but **no later than June 19, 2015**.

It is an important moment for the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). Over the past several years, we exceeded expectations for what traditional public schools could accomplish in Washington D.C. We outpaced every other state in progress on the most recent NAEP exam and reached all time highs in math and English Language Arts proficiency on the most recent DC CAS. In 2014, more than 1,150 new students enrolled in DCPS. This marked a third consecutive year of enrollment growth. It was the largest single number of new students enrolled in 47 years.

Our focus on community engagement is also showing signs of success. For more than three years, DCPS has worked with residents of Ward 5 to create school options that fit their needs. In 2013, we opened the new McKinley Middle School, with a curricular focus on STEM studies located in a newly renovated wing of McKinley Technology High School. For the upcoming school year, we will open Brookland Middle School, a beautiful new building constructed from the ground up and customized for a curricular focus on arts and languages. We have introduced International Baccalaureate (IB) programming to Browne Education Campus and guaranteed pre-kindergarten options at Bunker Hill, Burroughs, and Noyes. All of this was made possible by a responsive community willing to work alongside DCPS to discover what was possible.

Our community engagement extends beyond Ward 5. In the emerging Navy Yard neighborhood in Ward 6, DCPS will renovate and reopen Van Ness Elementary School. Navy Yard families have rallied around the project and we anticipate a great opening this fall. In Ward 7, the newly renovated River Terrace will open its doors to serve some of our highest need special education students in a new, modern setting.

So thank you for choosing DCPS. Not only do we want your family to continue with DCPS, we want you to share your experience with your friends, family and neighbors. If it has been a positive experience, share it, and ask others to enroll in DCPS, too! And if your experience has not been positive—tell us, so we can improve. Neighborhood schools are the only public schools that belong to the community, and you have a say in how your school looks, acts and feels.

If you have questions, please contact an enrollment specialist by calling (202) 478-5738, or e-mailing enroll@dc.gov. We're looking forward to another great year together.

Sincerely,

Kaya Henderson
Chancellor