

OLNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL <u>A School District of Philadelphia School</u>

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Dr. Martin Woodside, *Principal* Ms. Anieca Suber, *Assistant Principal* Delores Richards, *Assistant Principal* Dr. Tony Watlington, Sr, *Superintendent*

August 29, 2023

Dear Olney Community,

I am writing to welcome you to the 2023-24 school year. Last year, we continued the work of rebuilding our community in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic. We focused on building a strong school culture and making sure all students were progressing toward their academic goals. This year, we will continue that progress. Ours is a diverse school, and we want to develop more programs that reflect all the voices and cultures of Olney. We will focus on forging stronger connections with families, creating more opportunities for student leadership, and increasing the number of before and after school programs and events we offer. I hope you will be an active partner with us in that work.

We want families to be engaged, involved, and up to date on what's happening at Olney. Class Dojo invitations have already been sent to all families from their student's new homeroom teacher. If you did not receive an invitation, please reach out to the school to update your contact information. Along with our website, Class Dojo is a critical resource for us in sharing information with you about our school. Please make sure you are connected.

During the first week of school, we will be sending a lot of important information home for you to review. That will include copies of our revised cell phone and uniform policies, information about after school programming, and the dates for upcoming events like Back to School Night, Literacy Night, and Math Night. Please review these materials carefully.

The first day of school for the 23-24 school year will be 9/5/2003, and it will be a full day of school for all 1-8 students. Students in grades 3-8 should line up in our main building's courtyard by their homeroom at 9:00 AM that day. Students at the Annex will line up in the front or rear of the building at 9:00 AM. These students will be dismissed at 3:39. For Kindergarten students, the first five days will be half days, with students dismissing at 12:30. In the afternoons, families will be meeting with teachers, who will be reaching out to you to schedule these meetings.

This is going to be a great year at Olney Elementary. Working together, I know we can continue Olney's tradition of being one of the best schools in the city of Philadelphia.

With Olney Pride, Dr. Martin Woodside