



**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Upper Elementary School**

1200 Bangs Avenue
Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712
Phone (732) 776-2559 • Fax (732) 776-7503

Mr. Perry Medina, Principal

December 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

First, I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

It is my privilege to share with you our successes for this first part of the school year. Although we still face the tragic reality of COVID, we have adapted and evolved our services and programs to meet the needs of our students as well as possible during these difficult times. We have found solid footing and seen most of our students adapt resiliently under tremendously stressful times.

I am proud of our MLK community, our families, teachers and, most of all, our students. We have worked through some tough times and found new ways to thrive despite the profoundly difficult effects of this pandemic. From our morning meetings to our daily lessons, we have built a sustainable instructional day that has contributed to the academic and social development of your children.

- Our students receive live, daily instruction by highly qualified teachers. Daily activities and assessments give us a window into their academic growth
- Student participation and interest continues to grow as they become more comfortable with virtual instruction
- Teachers continue to develop their approaches to hybrid and remote instruction, with professional development from both the district and school level
- Our technological infrastructure has been bolstered by the latest hardware and software, delivering optimized environments for student learning
- We have dedicated staff for student support services, meeting the demands of social emotional learning as well as improving attendance and participation

With these successes, coupled with additional innovations in the near future, I am optimistic for our children. This year, more so than any other, we strive to employ comprehensive strategies to holistically address the educational and emotional needs of our students as they experience an unprecedented public health crisis. Our goal is to advance and support perpetual academic and social growth.

Your support continues to help us in these efforts and, together, we will help our students strive in 2021. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Perry Medina
Principal