



January 31, 2010

Dear Families:

I would like to thank you all for your friendly and gracious welcome to me as Interim Director. I am so impressed by the efforts of students, families, and all those at Riverview to provide an excellent education in a safe and supportive environment. I am truly privileged to be a part of this effort.

I have been spending much of my time in classrooms and watching how we do all of the things which keep the day moving smoothly in a way that supports maximum time for instruction and learning. We are currently working on clear behavioral expectations for areas of the school and times of the day such as the cafeteria, hallway passing, and recess. We are also examining our dismissal procedures to improve the process and allow our teachers more time to bring closure to the school day and plan for the next. We will communicate our efforts to you when we have completed our work.

I am asking you to assist us in making the most of our instructional time and beginning the day well. We need to have every student present, in his or her classroom, and ready to learn at 8:30AM each day. Punctuality is an important lesson to teach our students as it is a life skill they will need to be successful. This is a good time to model that lesson for them. We will be developing a tardy policy for the future which we expect to implement in February. It is my hope that in the next few weeks, you can discuss with your child how your daily routines at home can assure that he or she is organized and arriving on time. We are also looking at the way in which we handle the arrival of students being transported to school by car. It would be helpful to the process if older students who are capable of getting out of the vehicle with their belongings would take more responsibility, leaving our staff to assist those smaller children who need some help in getting safely out of the vehicles. It is our hope that this will move things along a bit faster and a slow moving line of cars will not be the cause of your child's being late for the opening of schools.

Please do not hesitate to communicate with me any thoughts you have on how to improve your child's experience at Riverview Charter School.

Eileen C. Williams
Interim Director