

The Widener Memorial School 1450 West Olney Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19141 215-400-3710 Harris R. Gaffin, Principal Teresa M. Guess, Assistant Principal Michele Wilson-Dawson, Principal



August 24, 2023

Dear Widener Memorial Families:

Welcome back! Or, if you are new to our Widener family, Welcome and Thank you for choosing our amazing school for your child's education. I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and are ready to start a new school year on September 5th 2023!

Last school year was filled with lots of fun learning experiences and student successes. Here are a few of our favorite memories:

Our annual Red Carpet Welcome sponsored by The Goldenberg Group, Fantastic Fall and Winter themed Festivals, Widener's celebration of The 100 Days of School, Monthly special multicultural programs for our students, Widener Day and many fabulous senior events for our high school students.

We are already gearing up for an incredible new school year. Our teachers have attended training sessions to better help all students learn and grow. Our front office team is updating student files and ordering new materials. Our hard-working custodians have spent the summer cleaning our school. And, our cafeteria workers are preparing to serve your children delicious, healthy and <u>free</u> breakfast and lunch each school day.

We're also delighted to welcome our new staff to Widener for the 2023-24 school year .

Jeffrey Gross, MDS Teacher Larry Scott, MDS Teacher Chaylin Ramirez, Bilingual Counselor Assistant (Thursday and Friday) Shanice Brooks, Secretary Kalina Stokes, Sped Assistant, Brittany Terry, Sped Assistant William Spriggs, Sped Assistant Imani Batipps- Johnson, Sped Assistant Alissa Howard, Sped Assistant

Be sure to visit **www.philasd.org/widener** for important back-to-school information and important updates from The School District of Philadelphia and Widener Memorial. I also want to invite you to attend our *Back-to-School Night on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 from 5 - 7 p.m.* This will be a great time to meet teachers and other families, and learn more about the new school year.

All of us at The Widener Memorial School look forward to welcoming students back to school on *Tuesday, September 5, 2023* and working with our families and community to support high-level learning. As always, please feel free to reach out to me at 215 400-3710 with questions or concerns. Together, we can make this school year our best one yet!

Mr. Harris R. Gaffin Principal