



**ROBERTO CLEMENTE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
18808 WARING STATION ROAD • GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND 20874  
PHONE: 301-284-4750 • FAX: 301-601-0370

August 12, 2024

Dear Roberto Clemente Middle School Families,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer filled with quality time with family and friends. As we eagerly anticipate welcoming you and your children back to school, we encourage you to cherish these remaining summer days together. On Thursday, August 22nd, all incoming Grade 6 students and any new to RCMS Grade 7 or 8 students are invited to attend the mini-day orientation from 8:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The school buses will be running and students should plan to use whatever mode of transportation they plan to use for the school year. This mini-day opportunity is for new students only. Families, save the date, the evening of Thursday, August 29th will be our Back to School Fair at Clemente, adults and students are encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars now and plan to come meet us!

Over the summer, our dedicated team at Roberto Clemente Middle School (RCMS) has been hard at work setting goals for the upcoming school year. This year, we are continuing to strengthen our commitment to academic success through focused literacy strategies. I look forward to engaging with you on this important work throughout the year.

Community Engagement is a key component to a successful school. Joining the PTSA is an excellent opportunity to get involved and support the staff and students at Clemente. Helpful PTSA information can be found here: [PTSA 2024](#). To contact the PTSA directly please email: [rcmsptsa.office@gmail.com](mailto:rcmsptsa.office@gmail.com)

Please join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to our incredible staff members who work tirelessly over the summer to ensure our school is ready for a successful year. Our building service team, office staff, administrative team, staff development teacher, MYP coordinator, teacher content specialists, team leaders, and counselors all contribute significantly behind the scenes. A special thank you goes to Ms. Jacky Mejia, our outstanding Building Service Manager, and her team for their unwavering dedication and leadership during the summer.

Administrators, school leaders, the counseling and main office staff are listed below. For a complete list of the Clemente Staff Directory please visit: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clementems/staff/directory/>.

#### **Administrators**

Mr. Jeff Brown – Principal & Grade 7 Administrator  
Ms. Tiffany Thornton – Grade 8 Administrator  
Ms. Cherin Hershkowitz – Grade 6 & Magnet Coordinator

#### **Counselors**

Ms. Nicki Walter – Resource Counselor  
Ms. Gabriella Ramos Quevedo – Registrar  
Ms. Jill Becknell – Grade 6  
Mr. Marquis Mathis – Grade 7  
Ms. Lindsey Parra – Grade 8  
Ms. Audrick Bonilla – Pupil Personnel Worker (PPW)  
Ms. Victoria Eells – Social Worker  
Ms. Stacy Bateman – School Psychologist  
Ms. Magda Sobalvarro-Ochoa – Parent Community Coordinator

### **Content Specialists & Teacher Leadership**

Ms. Karen Naylor – Staff Development Teacher  
Ms. Liz Gall – Middle Years Programme Coordinator  
Ms. Shoshana Kohr – Resource Teacher Special Education  
Ms. Natasha Abelle-Kiser – Individuals and Societies (World Studies)  
Ms. Roseann Brady – Science  
Mr. Steve Howington – Math  
Mr. Dave Hudson – Physical Education  
Ms. Julie Long – Language and Literature and ESOL  
Ms. Nicki Walter – Counseling  
Ms. Melanie Mosher – Language Acquisition and Arts

### **Team Leaders**

Ms. Courtney Courtemanche – Grade 6  
Ms. Ashleigh Nesselt – Grade 6  
Ms. Jacqueline Lenfesty – Grade 7  
Ms. Celeste Bobro – Grade 7  
Ms. Bridget Blades – Grade 8  
Mr. Peter Checco – Grade 8

### **Main Office Team**

Ms. Nicole Quiroga – Administrative Secretary  
Ms. Carmen Richter – Attendance Secretary  
Ms. Linda Shaugnessy – Magnet Secretary  
Ms. Jeri Crist – Main Office Secretary

### **2024–2025 School Arrival and Dismissal Schedule**

School start and end time are 8:15 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. Students will be welcomed into the building at 7:50 a.m. All students will enter through the main entrance. As a reminder, free breakfast is available to all of our students.

### **Safety Guidelines**

This year, students will continue to have the opportunity to go outside for “recess” after they finish their lunch. This year, students are not allowed to bring balls or toys of any type to school. In the interest of student and staff safety, no food deliveries will be allowed. As a reminder, per MCPS guidelines, any adult entering the school building will be asked for their identification.

Ensuring safe drop-off and pick-up is part of our renewed focus on safety and security. As a reminder, traffic in front of the building and in the carpool lane is very busy before and after school. When dropping off your child, please help us by pulling up as far forward as possible, abiding by the lines in the drop off loop. Please plan your travel time so that your child arrives at school with enough time to go to their locker and arrive in class on time. We also ask that the staff parking lot **not** be utilized for drop-off purposes. For the safety of all children, please be sure to obey all traffic laws when dropping off and picking up, including no U-turns or stopping to drop-off students on Waring Station Road.

### **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities**

Students in Grades 7 and 8 who are interested in trying out for fall sports (cross country or softball) need to have all the MCPS Middle School Athletics paperwork filled out by a parent and a doctor, please see the link below for details. Students interested in Basketball (Winter) or Soccer (Spring), should also begin to get their paperwork organized before the sports tryouts. Please click [here](#) to learn more about RCMS Athletics. If you haven't done so already, please consider scheduling your child for a physical to ensure that they can participate in tryouts in the fall.

### **Free and Reduced Meals Application**

The applications for Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) are already open. You are encouraged to apply online and **not** wait for the paper application to come home with the students. Go to <https://www.myschoolapps.com/> to apply today. You must reapply for FARMS every year. Students who received FARMS last year will only continue to receive free or reduced prices until October 1, 2024 unless the 2024–2025 application has been approved.

### **Links To Helpful Information**

- [MCPS School Calendar, 2024–2025](#)
- [Bus Routes](#) \*\*\*Magnet Bus Routes will be available on August 17th.
- [Parent Vue](#)
- [Suggested School Supply List](#)
- [Lunch Price List](#)
- [Athletic Physical Form](#)
- [MCPS Pest Management Notice and Asbestos Notice](#)
- [Immunization Requirements 24-25](#)
- [Directory Withholding 24-25](#)
- [Privacy Notice](#)

We eagerly await the arrival of our students for the **first day of school on Monday, August 26, 2024**. Have a great remainder of your summer vacation and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,



Jeffrey T. Brown  
Principal