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March 9, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It seems that winter keeps on coming. During the last two Nor'easters our teachers and staff worked cautiously to ensure that we helped the children get to their buses with a minimum of exposure to the inclement weather. I hope this letter finds you all well as we anticipate the coming of Springtime here at Verne W. Critz. There are a number of items we are working on here at the school. My intention is to advise you of them through this letter.

Recently, Superintendent Dr. Giani, posted a message on our school's website announcing that Mr. Ginty will continue his leave for the remainder of the school year. Know that I am pleased to remain in this position as Acting Principal in support of your child and the Verne W. Critz staff.

Upcoming dates:

- **PTA meeting Tuesday, March 13th at 7 pm.** This is an important night as the majority PTA leadership will be graduating this year. We need you to consider your participation with this most important group. Your involvement is imperative to our school's success. Additionally, I will be making a brief presentation regarding the Measures of Academic Progress and some general comments about testing. Please join us in the library for this important meeting.
- **Science Fair** – Our teachers and I are hopeful that you and your child are working on a Science Project. This past Friday night, we sponsored a Science show presented by the Mad Scientists. On that evening the curiosity of the children was piqued as they explored the exciting results when chemicals and catalysts are combined. Please consider your child's participation in this year's Science fair. Projects are due on the morning of Tuesday, March 20th. You are encouraged to join us on Wednesday, March 21st to view the work of our children from 6:00 – 6:30 pm. Prizes will be awarded between 6:30 and 7:00 pm.
- **Reporting to Parents** – Student Progress Reports will be distributed on Thursday, 3/22. During the conference period, parents are encouraged to schedule an appointment with our teachers. Under separate cover, you received an invitation to join us for a Spring Conference on Thursday evening, March 22nd or Friday morning, March 23rd. Please be reminded that school will be closed for students on Friday, March 23rd so that conferences can take place here at the building. Remember an informed parent is the best partner in the academic development of our students.
- **Attention 1st grade parents** – Please plan on joining us on Friday, March 16th at 9:30 am for a celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Children will be served a breakfast of green eggs and ham as we all enjoy the whimsical tale bearing the same name. Please confirm your attendance with your child's teacher".
- **Measures of Academic Progress** – Before the vacation, students were administered the Measures of Academic Progress Assessment. A copy of their student progress report will be attached to their report card. Please be sure to review it.
- **Kindergarten Registration** – If you have an entering Kindergartener for Fall 2018 our Kindergarten Registration dates at Central Office are March 13th through March 16th. Please make an appointment with Alice Villano at 631-730-1617 to register your child.
- **Homework and Reading** – Be reminded that students should be reading every night. As the song says "common sense is all you need...drop everything and read."

Please be reminded that school will be closed for Spring Recess beginning Friday, March 30th through Friday, April 6th. School reopens on Monday, April 9th.

Should you have any questions or concerns I will be happy to address them. Looking forward to seeing you over the upcoming weeks.

Yours truly,

Mr. Paul Graf
Acting Principal