

1380 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44114 · 216.574.8500 · Fax 216.574.2140 · [www.cmsdnet.net](http://www.cmsdnet.net)

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Dear Staff:

It is with excitement and gratitude that the staff of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District prepares for the start of the second semester of the 2011-12 school year. As we look back on the academic gains we have celebrated this year, we are grateful to the staff, citizens and community partners that have played a significant role in the success of our students.

During one of the most difficult times in the history of American public education, the CMSD staff worked together to meet our economic challenges and to move our district forward in the face of increased costs and decreased funding. In the midst of some of the greatest challenges our nation has ever faced, Cleveland's public schools have continued to improve, and the choices and supports we are providing for students and their families are accelerating.

Because we know how important families are to the success of our students and to the improvement of our schools, we are proud to launch our first winter session of CMSD's Parent University, formed in partnership with the Neighborhood Leadership Institute to engage families as partners in their children's school experience.

CMSD's Parent University, increased school choices and an ever-expanding portfolio of high-performing schools are only a few of the many reasons that families are selecting and supporting the Cleveland Metropolitan School District.

Working together, we are changing the face of education in Cleveland. As the new year approaches, we remain committed to earning our reputation as a vibrant urban community where our schools, our families and our communities work together to ensure a bright future for our children and our city.

Sincerely,



Eric S. Gordon  
Chief Executive Officer