

Southwest Academy Magnet School for Science and Engineering

443-809-0825

6200 Johnnycake Road ♦ Baltimore, MD 21207

Fax: 443-809-0829

Dear Southwest Academy Families:

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! On behalf of the Southwest Academy (SWA) faculty and staff, I would like to welcome our incoming sixth grade students, as well as our new and returning seventh and eighth grade students.

Our focus this year is to *Reset to Jet-Set*! In order to **JET-SET**, making bold moves to take our school to the next level, we must **RESET** by providing our students with rigorous and responsive instruction, and holding them to our high expectations- socially, emotionally, behaviorally, and academically.

The district has established the Responsive Middle School movement. Although responsive planning and teaching are not new to Southwest Academy, SWA staff will intently continue our work on **responsiveness** to ensure that we are meeting the needs of ALL students EVERY day. Responsiveness to the adolescent learner at SWA will extend beyond the content courses. It will also extend into our weekly advisory period called *Tiger Talk*. During the 30-minute *Tiger Talk* period on Wednesdays, educators throughout the building will explicitly teach social emotional and executive functioning skills, build positive relationships and rapport with the students, implement academic and behavioral goal setting, and monitor students' achievement.

Families, we cannot **Reset to Jet-Set** without the mutual support and commitment of each and every family. We are counting on families to partner with us to provide an optimal and thriving learning environment by monitoring your children's academic, behavioral, and social emotional progress; communicating with teachers and staff; and reinforcing learning at home.

In preparation for the school year, please note the following important information:

- **Early Entry Grade 6 Welcome:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 (8:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.). Information is enclosed.
- **Grade 6 Back-to-School Night:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. More information is forthcoming.
- **Grades 7 and 8 Back-to-School Night:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. More information is forthcoming.

For essential procedures and resources, please go to our school's website: <https://southwestms.bcps.org> to access our *Southwest Academy Family Resource Manual*.

In addition, please continue to check your email and BCPS (www.bcps.org) website for ongoing updates and review all enclosed documents. They will be beneficial to students and families.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of summer!

Sincerely,
April N. Franklin, Principal