

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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December 6, 2019

Dear Families and Community Members,

Our school recently received its School Report Card from the Maryland State Department of Education. The Report Card summarizes how the school performed on the Maryland accountability system.

The results reflect school performance in multiple areas, including: academic achievement, academic progress (for elementary and middle schools), school quality and student success measures, as well as graduation rates and college and career readiness (for high schools). Additional data in this year's School Report Card includes a School Quality and Student Success indicator, based on the results of a survey of students and educators taken last spring, as well as an indicator of whether a school has improved from the previous year. For elementary and middle schools, the Academic Progress indicator now includes student performance on state science tests.

These results are an important snapshot of how a school is performing. They show areas in which we are doing well, and illuminate those in which we need to improve. The information provided on the Maryland School Report Card is displayed in a way that makes it easy to understand each school's performance.

You can find the School Report Card, and much more information, at the Maryland Report Card website:

www.MDReportCard.org

While the final score on the Report Card does not tell the whole story, we hope the Maryland School Report Card will add to our community discussion about how to constantly improve our schools. The data on the Report Card is both informative and empowering, and will help us ask questions, find answers, make decisions, and act.

We are pleased to announce that Hillcrest Elementary School received the highest possible rating of 5 Stars and ranked in the 93rd percentile when compared to all Maryland Elementary Schools. We are only one of 23 schools in Baltimore County Public Schools to receive this exceptional rating and only one of three schools in BCPS to increase our school's rating over the previous year. Our school environment was identified as a true strength receiving outstanding ratings. On this indicator, Hillcrest earned 91% of total possible indicator points. As we look forward, we still have significant work to do in order to address inequalities in our performance outcomes.

We hope you will view the Maryland School Report Card as a tool to become more involved in Hillcrest Elementary. Help us raise our schools' scores by taking a community approach to the

mission of educating children. Together we can maintain our status of excellence while simultaneously improving outcomes for all students.

Sincerely,

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