



MERION MERCY ACADEMY

August 2, 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the start of the new school year. I am very excited to begin this school year working with our talented teachers as Interim Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs. I bring to this position over twenty years of experience in education. At Merion Mercy Academy I have served as teacher, department chairperson and student council moderator. I have had the privilege of interacting with our amazing students and their supportive families. I have experienced firsthand the unique culture and learning environment that is created by the community of learners present at a Mercy school. Having attended an independent, Catholic, all-girls high school, I have a strong commitment to the empowering mission of our school.

My decision to transition from Science Department Chair to Interim Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs was largely influenced by our remarkable students, our exceptional teachers, and the strong reputation of Merion Mercy Academy. My goal is to provide academic experiences that are not only rigorous and relevant to our students but that also align with our Mercy Core Values. I look forward to working on the administrative team with Mrs. Farrell and Dr. Pidot, to strengthen our mission-focused, student-centered academic curriculum. Our students are at the center of the work we do at Merion, and I am excited to partner with you this year as we work together so that our students achieve their goals.

Enclosed with this letter is important information relating to course enrollment and student orientation (for freshmen and new students). Please review all information carefully to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

All students are expected to be in uniform on the first day. If uniforms have not arrived yet from Flynn and O'Hara, I ask that the student bring a note, and she will be given a uniform pass.

Important dates are listed below:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| August 26, 2019 | Freshman/New Student Orientation | (See separate memos) |
| August 27, 2019 | Freshman Orientation, cont'd | |
| August 28, 2019 | All students report to Homeroom | Full Class Day |
| August 29, 2019 | All students report to Homeroom | Full Class Day |
| August 30, 2019 | No school | Labor Day weekend |
| September 2, 2019 | No school | Labor Day |
| September 3, 2019 | All students report to First Period | Full Class Day |

Looking ahead, mark your calendar for our Back-to-School Night which will be held on September 10. Further information will be sent at the end of August. In the meantime, I hope you are enjoying the summer vacation time with family and friends.

I look forward to having a wonderful year together.

Best regards,

Ms. Valerie Prucnal
Interim Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs
vprucnal@merion-mercy.com