

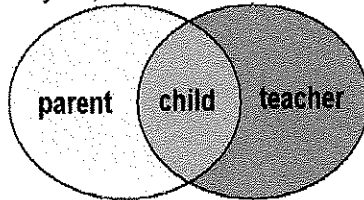
# Overlea High School

443-809-5241

5401 Kenwood Avenue · Baltimore, Maryland 21206

Fax: 443-809-3249

July 25, 2019



Greetings Overlea High School Parents or Guardian:

I am excited to embark on a brand-new year filled with hope, adventure, and bright new horizons. It is my honor and privilege to serve the Overlea High School community as we continue to sustain academic excellence through positive relationships and a genuine partnership between school and the community. As the Overlea High School Principal, it is my mission to motivate, inspire, and support all members of our school family as we continue our journey toward educational excellence and developing the whole child.

We are extremely excited about our returning and new staff and the commitment they exhibit toward maximizing individual student achievement and ensuring school safety. We will continue developing positive connections with our students, parents/guardians and surrounding community. Through consistent communication and shared partnership, we will continue to build lasting relationships that will enhance the learning environment at Overlea High School.

Overlea High School has a rich history of excellence and a supportive community. This year's focus will be on creating instructional accountability at Overlea: Building an intentional culture of high expectations and instructional excellence. I pledge that the Overlea faculty and staff will continue to do all we can to ensure that our students are well prepared for the transition for college and/or career. However, we will need the full support of our parents as educational partners in the academic journey. Our students must be committed to achieving excellence through hard work, perseverance, and commitment. Together, we can ensure that our students leave high school with the academic skills and habits of mind necessary to contribute to and excel in a globally competitive society. During this upcoming academic year, please know that the Overlea staff welcomes and desires your input as we reveal Overlea High School as a great school in the Baltimore County Public School System and the State of Maryland. Together we can, and we will rise to the top because of our commitment to join forces as a united school family, declaring that our children will receive the best education possible.

I would like to highlight some exciting changes at Overlea High School for the upcoming year:

- Overlea High School welcomes our new Assistant Principal, Mr. Zachary Clark who will supervise the 9<sup>th</sup> grade;
- The 11<sup>th</sup> grade class will be supervised by Mr. Kevin Whatley, Assistant Principal and the 12<sup>th</sup> grade class will be supervised by Mrs. Brittney Keith-Charbonnier;
- The 10<sup>th</sup> grade class will be supervised by the 3 assistant principals and students will be assigned based on last name;
- Overlea welcomes a new CTE program entitled "Homeland Security";
- The school day will be from 7:45-2:15; and
- All students will continue to engage in community circles in order to build a strong sense of community within their classes

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This year, Overlea High School will be focused on four primary overarching goals:

1. Building quality and collaborative student-centered instruction via AVID WICOR strategies, effective planning and utilizing formative assessment to drive instruction;
2. Ensuring students are learning in a safe and secure learning environment via restorative practices, equity, and student voice;
3. Ensuring that a growth mindset exists among staff, students and the Overlea community; and
4. Establishing high expectations for all students and staff via an Instructional Accountability model

I am extremely excited about the 2019-2020 school year and working with Overlea team members as partners towards a shared commitment of maximizing individual student achievement. Our school goals for the 2019-2020 school year will support Baltimore County Public Schools 2019-2020 goals and priorities of raising the bar, closing gaps, and preparing our scholars for the future. This year will be a year of deliberately ensuring there is a culture of instructional accountability of all stakeholders at Overlea High School.

The first day of classes for all students is Tuesday, September 3. There will be an early entry day for incoming freshmen on Friday, August 30. Freshman Orientation night and Orientation night for students new to Overlea will be held on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 6p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Information will be forthcoming to incoming freshmen students. In addition, please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our Back to School Night, to be held on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Student academic success and personal responsibility at Overlea High School are truly dependent on a cooperative triangle comprised of the student-teacher-parent/guardian. I look forward to engaging in a partnership with the Overlea students, families and external supporters of our students; a partnership ensuring the academic success of the whole child. I hope that you continue to have a restful and safe summer.

Sincerely,  
Monica C. Sample  
*Monica C. Sample*  
Principal