



Cloonan Middle School

11 West North Street / Stamford, CT 06902

(203) 977-4544 / FAX (203) 977- 4867

*Principal David Rudolph
Assistant Principal Laureen Mody
Assistant Principal David Tate*

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In preparation for the Middle School Reform efforts that will be introduced district wide next fall, Cloonan will pilot a new grade six schedule and grouping strategies for the final marking period this year. We are pursuing this reorganization as a response to the findings of our recent Cambridge Audit as well as additional research and training provided by the Efficacy Institute. Both organizations were brought into the Stamford Public Schools to evaluate and summarize what we needed to do to provide the most rigorous education for all students, top end through low achievers, and the recommendations on how to restructure our schools to achieve this. We will maintain the current grouping approach for Math and English Language Arts. We will introduce mixed groups for social studies and science beginning after the spring break. Students will receive their new schedules prior to the break. Please note that students will continue with their current teachers and there will be no disruption in instruction during this process.

As always, our goal continues to be enhancing the quality and level of instruction for all students. We must bring our students up to the standards that will allow them to compete globally in the 21st Century by promoting critical thinking, creativity and problem solving skills in cooperative teams. In their future, only a minute few will work in isolation. The time to develop these skills is now.

Our sixth grade staff already has experience teaching diverse groups of students. In addition, they are receiving professional development to increase their skills and instructional strategies to support accelerated student learning. Our staff is eager to start implementing best practices immediately. As administrators, we have always believed Cloonan has the resources to provide high quality education. We are excited that this new structure will allow us to use those resources to better advantage.

We appreciate your support as we move forward to provide the children, yours – ours – everyone’s, with a challenging world class education.

Sincerely,

David Rudolph

Laureen Mody

David Tate

Please complete and return the portion below

Student’s Name _____

Homeroom _____

My signature indicates receipt of this letter. Further I acknowledge that the goal of Cloonan Middle School is to provide my child with the skills necessary for the 21st century.

Parent (Guardian) Signature

Date