

Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

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October 2022*

"Equitable Education for Every Student"

Principal's Message

Greetings Parents,

I truly thank you for choosing RLMJH School as your child's educational institution. We are steadily working to increase student achievement in our building, but we need your help in making this happen. Many of our students are late for school and they are being checked out of school before the end of the day. Because of this, our students are missing valuable instructional time that can be used to increase achievement. We are very focused and intentional about educating our students. With your support of getting your child to school on time and staying for the entire day, and more, we can dramatically increase our achievement level. I look forward to working with you and your child this 2nd semester of school. I thank you in advance for your continued support in helping to make RLMJH a place where student achievement is our main goal.

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

The year has kicked off with a great start. Let's continue to practice safety and social distancing. As the holiday's approaches, let's enjoy family and food with love and care by continuing to wear our masks and sanitize. We greatly appreciate all you do in support of Robert L. Merritt Junior High School. My days at Robert L. Merritt Junior High School are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p. m. Remember, I will adjust my schedule to accommodate your needs. I can be reach me at gray@sunflowerk12.org or (662) 884-1270 ext. 317.

Timothy Holmes, Assistant Principal

The beginning of the school year has started and we are in the process of trying to maintain our school rating of a B. We lost several teachers who were a part of the success and we gained some teachers who were a part of an A-rated school.

The students are excited about the hard work and dedication they put in to obtain the school rating. This year has started with schoolwide discipline being low and students are buying into the systems that were put in place. We know that we must put forth more effort to maintain the rating but the teachers are willing to put in the work and attempt to move to the next level. We rewarded our students that were proficient or advanced on the state MAAP assessments during a ceremony.

This will show the students that their hard work did not go unnoticed. We will be implementing new systems to reach a higher level but it will take a maximum effort form all involved parties which includes the teachers and students. For the most part, there is a positive culture at Merritt and we will continue to make sure everyone is on board to continue with the success of the school. We would also like to thank the community for being supportive in our efforts and for sending us the students that made us successful.

The McKinney -Vento Act

When a family becomes homeless, there are two issues that usually occur with the effected children, 1) student attendance decreases and 2) financial situations destroy students' interest in school. The SCCSD recognizes the importance of education for all children and has adopted the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act that addresses the needs of homeless children. This policy aids with homeless students so that they can continue to be educated despite the challenges they face. If you know of families with children who are homeless, please let us know at (662) 844-1270. For more information visit Website: <http://www.serve.org/ncheor> E-mail homeless@serve.org.

Counselor's Corner, Naomi Fant-Ivory

The Month of October is Mental Health Screening and Bullying Prevention Month, @ RLMJHS counseling will be surrounding these two areas. Here are some of the things that we will be working on:

Social and Emotional Development:

We are learning about optimism, growth mindset and goal setting. October is also Mental Health Screening Month and Bullying Prevention Month. We are continuing to practice positive self-talk and being kind to our mind. We will be discussing how to recognize us emotions and practicing various coping strategies.

Career Focus:

We are exploring specific career interests. Students will be participating in various Activities to learn about many different careers.

Academic Skills:

We are starting to learn about how the brain creates neural pathways when learning And problem solving. We are also setting goals together and individually. As we begin to understand what is happening inside our brains when learning and working toward goals, we can become more resilient and determined.

At Home CHALLENGE:

A coping strategy is an action or thought that helps you in a stressful or unpleasant situation and prevents you from emotional escalation. What are some coping strategies that you have been using that are working for you? Write them down or draw a picture about it. If you can, ask your family and friends about what they do to help themselves work through strong emotions in order to be optimistic. I would love to hear about what you come up with.

**Naomi Fant-Ivory, Counselor
Robert L. Merritt Junior High School.**



One of our candidates!!



Some more of our candidates

Can you answer the following question?

- What book are you Reading now?
- Do you know where the library is at your school?
- Has your ELA Teacher given you guidance on how to utilize the MackinVIA app that is located within your Clever?

If not, please go to the MackinVIA app and search for books that you are interested in. You can check out the book with no problems and check the book back in with no complications. If there is a book that you are looking for and it is not found in the MackinVIA app, please let the Librarian at your school know.

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DOGOnews is the leading publisher of academic current events for Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. We pioneered the use of academic current events as lesson plans to help students develop into socially-aware and responsible global

Dr. Jessica James, Library Media Specialist

