

February 2008

Dear Parents,

We, the staff of Groveland Elementary School, continue to be very proud of the performance of our students on the Pennsylvania State Standardized Assessment (PSSA). The PSSA exams are used by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to measure student achievement in schools throughout the Commonwealth. The results of the PSSA tests are summarized and reported in order to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001. The attached NCLB Report Card summarizes the proficiency levels of our students in reading and mathematics.

While these tests are an important indicator of student performance, they do not tell the whole story about our school. Test scores are only one indicator of the performance of our students, and I continue to be very proud of the work that I see our students doing each day. As I reflect on the daily performance of our students, a few key “Points of Pride” come to mind:

- **Instruction Support Team Procedures**

Our Instructional Support Team consists of the classroom teacher, administrators, counselors, psychologists, and parents. In most cases, the classroom teacher will come to the meetings to share observations and progress of the student. Our Instructional Support Process has changed to incorporate our belief in the Professional Learning Community. Our process now consists of observations of the student and conversations with the teacher. Then, the team (which now includes **all** teachers on that grade level) gets together before the parents come in to share other ideas that could assist in supporting the child. Once the team has met to make modifications and recommendations, a plan is designed and then presented to the parents. Once again, both parents and staff have welcomed this process. The parents feel that there are many people working together for the success of their child.

- **Response to Intervention (RtI)**

Groveland Elementary School is piloting the Response to Intervention (RtI) program this year for grades Kindergarten - Second. The RtI

program is designed to target specific needs for children in the area of reading and to deliver research based interventions. With the help of these interventions, the program will help to maintain and achieve students reading on grade level.

- **The Math Lab, Writing Lab, and Grade Level Tutors**

The Professional Staff of Groveland Elementary recognizes that educating our students is a team effort with many hands involved in shaping the child. This year, we have identified to better meet the individual needs of our students. We now have Education Assistants, some of who are certified teachers, working to support the classroom teacher in meeting the needs of the students in our Math Lab, Writing Lab, and as Grade Level Tutors.

- **The “Great Grizzly” Program Promotes *Sportsmanship, Cooperation, Respect and Responsibility***

The students of Groveland are reminded daily of the expectations the staff holds for them in making good choices. Classroom Codes of Conduct are developed and agreed to using the four themes of *Respect, Responsibility, Sportsmanship* and *Cooperation* as their foundation. Consequences are well defined and clear lines of communication are developed between the school and home. We are extremely proud of the behavior our students exhibit each and everyday.

I would like to thank all the parents and guardians for the support you provide to your children as well as for the continued support you provide our school. Please click the link below to review the PSSA test summaries that make up our school’s [NCLB Report Card](#).

Respectfully,

David A. Heineman
Principal