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THE SABER LOOP

Quote of the week:

*"Don't let your learning lead to knowledge.
Let your learning lead to action." ...*

—Jim Rohn

Dear SEED MD Family,

As we head into week four, I would like to recognize our collective response to our environmental challenge last week. Together we were able to navigate the Mayor's boil water advisory, and we bounced back this week like the resilient team we are. The fact is, we are proud and honored to work with every single one of you in the SEED MD community—our teachers, counselors, deans, leaders, operational, administrative, coaches, and security and food service workers—all of you!

We started MAP testing this week. For those of you who are not in academics, MAP is an acronym that stands for Measures of Academic Progress, and it is given three times per year. This version of MAP testing will give us a baseline for this school year, from which we will chart growth for the rest of the school year.

SEPT. 16, 2022

See the [link](#) for frequently asked questions about assessments. Please be sure to save the academic and assessment calendar so that we know not to schedule field trips and other activities that may adversely impact testing. Here are some other [strategies to help students prepare for testing](#).

Fall sports are underway, and we salute our coaches for their time and sacrifice working with students each day after school. Our Football team won their season opener with a 38 to 0 win over Center High School in Prince George's County. Our girls' varsity and junior volleyball teams kicked off their first games of the year at Mervo High School in Baltimore. Unfortunately, the varsity girls came up short in a tough match. However, our girls' JV prevailed in their match. Please encourage all of our scholar-athletes and plan to catch a game or two; they love to see us there.



Better Together. Connection, Collaboration, Collegiality



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As you know, our theme for this year is:

***Better Together. Connection,
Collaboration, and Collegiality.***

In the spirit of that theme, we will hold our first staff coffee, cupcakes, and conversations with the HOS on Sept 20th; please sign up for a time [here](#). Remember this is a no-agenda meeting, and staff are asked to come with ideas, suggestions, and questions. The late Maya Angelou left us with a powerful quote to remember; she wrote: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." As we work on deepening our own collegiality, we model for our scholars the soft skills, attitudes, and behaviors that are pivotal to their long-term success in college and in life.

Doug Lemov, the author of *Teach Like a Champion*, wrote a powerful article in response to an article entitled, *One Teenager's Dark Journey on Social Media* in the New York Times. Doug states "An institution with the dual purpose of fostering students' learning and well-being cannot ignore an intruder that actively

erodes a young mind's ability to focus and sustain attention and also magnifies anxiety, loneliness, and depression." As a school, we are asking all to reinforce our policy of cell phones being turned off in class and in school. Please see page 14 of our [policy here](#).

There are many games and activities in the week ahead. I look forward to seeing you at some of them; the rest are on [CalendarWiz](#).

Lastly, I would like to share a quick COVID-19 update. Our numbers are still low. We had three cases this week.

Have a great weekend!

Kirk A. Sykes
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