

To: Sterling Montessori parents, faculty, staff and students

Thank you for your participation and insightful input into the Strategic Planning for Sterling Montessori over the last several months. I am proud to announce that the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan has been approved by the LHU Board. I encourage you to review the Plan on our website and share in the excitement around our direction in the months and years ahead.

Before the close of the school year, the LHU Board will provide opportunities for you to review the Strategic Plan and understand the important role that parents, staff and students will play. The Plan provides the foundation for Sterling's future growth, including the beginning of much needed site improvements, the building of new classroom space and reaffirmation of our commitment to the Montessori principles that have been the cornerstone of our educational offering.

On April 21st, the LHU Board will present the Strategic Plan to the staff and discuss its integration into the life of the school. The Mission Statement and Guiding Principles will be posted in each classroom and in public spaces around campus and each teacher will review the Plan with their students.

On May 13th and 14th, staff and parents will be invited to Community Sessions during which members of the Board will present the Strategic Plan and encourage discussion about plans for the future. Finally, all members of the Sterling community will be encouraged to attend the End of Year Picnic where we will celebrate our accomplishments as a community, and review the proposed Master Plan and timeline for Campus-wide improvements.

The realities of the current economic environment may force Sterling to alter the timeline for some of these exciting initiatives and force us to think creatively about funding our growth. We are fortunate that the LHU Board has been a good steward of Sterling's resources and will be able to fund some of the much needed site improvements outlined in the proposed Master Plan, once it is approved by the City of Morrisville. Proposed improvements will include:

- Plans for replacement of the cottages with permanent classroom space.
- Improvement of storm water drainage to eliminate campus flooding.
- Re-design of carpool lanes including fire lanes to improve safety and traffic flow.
- Increased parking for faculty, staff and families.

We have begun the critical outreach to members of the Morrisville community, including Mayor Jan Faulker and Mayor Pro-tem Liz Johnson in order to assure a strong, long-term partnership between Sterling and the community at large. Over the coming months, members of the LHU Board will work with members of the Morrisville Community to ensure approval of Sterling's new Master Plan. Once the plan is approved, the LHU Board will announce the timeline for approved site improvements.

Thank you for your dedication to Sterling Montessori. I look forward to your continued participation as we move ahead with making our planned growth and campus improvements a reality!

With appreciation,

Sharmila Bristol
LHU Board President

April 20, 2009