South Memorial Elementary School
16 Maple Street Ext.
Peabody, MA 01960
978-536-5700 – Fax: 978-536-5710

December 19, 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to enclose the South Memorial School's "report card". Report cards answer important questions about a school's overall performance and contain specific information about student enrollment and teacher qualifications, student achievement, accountability, how a school is performing relative to other schools in the district and the state, and the progress made toward narrowing proficiency gaps for different groups of students.

In this report you will find the following important information about our school:

Student enrollment and teacher quality: This section of the report card provides information about the students and teachers in our school as compared to the district and the state. If your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

Assessment results: This section of the report shows how our students are performing on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) test as compared to the district and the state.

School and district accountability information: This section of the report contains three important pieces of information:

- Accountability and Assistance Levels: Schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. Our school has been placed into Level 2 because we have not met our gap narrowing goals.
- School Percentiles: A school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school percentile is 41%. This means that our school is performing higher than 40% percent of the elementary schools in the state.
- Progress and Performance Index (PPI): The PPI is a number that indicates our school's progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, or, in other words, helping *all* students reach proficiency and be prepared for success after high school. Massachusetts has set a goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half between the years 2011 and 2017. For a group of students to be considered to be making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, its cumulative PPI must be 75 or higher.

To improve student achievement in our school, we are offering:

- Before and after ELA and Math classes to improve student learning,
- Enrichment programs, through PTO funding, which offer students an opportunity to experience hands-on-learning in the science and social studies content areas,
- Scholastic Book Fairs during parent nights and Barnes & Noble Nights to offer parents the opportunity to purchase appropriate reading materials in English Language Arts, math, science and social studies,
- School wide Math and Literacy Night to experience the Peabody Content Curriculum.

We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Encouraging your child's learning at home,
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings,
- Attending special events such as Family Math and Literacy Night,
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district,
- Encouraging other parents to become involved.

For more information about our school's report card or to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact us at 978-536-5700.

Sincerely,

Dr. M. Nappi

Monique B. Nappi, EdD
Principal