

Leslie J.P. Goe, Principal Barry Payton, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Allison Groves, Guidance Counselor April Dawson, Secretary Julie Horrocks, Cafeteria Manager 419 Church Street P.O. Box 489 Clay, WV 25043 Phone: (304) 587-2343 Fax: (304) 587-2759

Dear Clay Middle School Parents, Students, and Community,

Welcome back to another great year at Clay County Middle School. I hope you are recharged and ready to get started. We are all excited to have students back in our classrooms and hallways filling them with energy and enthusiasm for learning. It is our mission to help every child feel welcomed, connected, and a part of our Mustang Family. It is truly a privilege to be a part of a community where parents, teachers, and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. I am so delighted that you are a part of our amazing learning community.

**Strong Start Attendance Campaign.** Attendance matters from day one. For every child to succeed, it is important to make sure every child is present, engaged, and accounted for as soon as they begin school, every day. The first 20 days will be our initial focus. Each day that students are present, they will be rewarded with an attendance incentive. On the 20<sup>th</sup> day of school, September 20, students will attend an attendance carnival. We need parent help for this! Please reach out if you are interested in helping.

In order to keep our schools safe, Clay County Schools subscribes to the West Virginia Safe Schools Helpline, a service that will enable our parents and students to share information anonymously with school officials. **How does the helpline work?** A 24-hour, toll-free number has been assigned for all of West Virginia – the same number for ALL schools. It can be reached from instate and from outside the state. When you call this number, you will be talking to an actual person – not a recording. **What information should be reported?** You should report any information that could have a negative impact on students, school staff or school property. Here are some examples: violence, weapons, threats, thefts or property damage, drug or alcohol abuse, sexual harassment. These acts are threats to your safety and should be reported. Anyone can call the Safe Schools Helpline. This helpline is here to help you. Remember, what affects your school, affects you and your community. It is your responsibility to help keep your community safe.

> West Virginia Safe Schools Helpline 1-866-SAFEWVA (1-866-723-3982) <u>safeschool@wv.gov</u>

At Clay County Middle School, our teachers utilize research-based best practices and analyze academic data to determine current skill levels and to set goals for growth and improvement. We hope that you will take advantage of our online grading system, LiveGrades. On LiveGrades, you can access your child's current grades, attendance, and your child's teachers directly. If you need your LiveGrades login information, please contact us at (304) 587-2343. We thank you for your continued support of our efforts as we work together to provide the best middle school experience for your child.

Sincerely,