



# Elizabeth Hall International

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *Igniting the Flames of Excellence*

November 3, 2014

Dear Elizabeth Hall Parents and Families,

The Star Tribune published a story on Sunday about teacher evaluations in Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS). We want to provide you with some context for the story.

School district staff and teachers have collaborated since 2011 to determine the best way to evaluate teachers. We evaluate teachers so that we can identify and learn from our best teachers. We also want to give our teachers feedback and training so that they can grow professionally.

The newspaper article included a map of MPS schools and the average teacher performance. This map showed that schools in high-poverty areas have a lower average teacher performance. However, this map does not accurately show the skill and performance of our teachers or how much our students actually learn. In fact, there are three other critical teacher evaluation measures that were identified on the map that were not highlighted in the article. These include the student survey results, the math value-added data and the reading value-added data. All three of these additional measures for Elizabeth Hall were either at or above the district average. When all measures are considered, our teachers are doing exceptional work and are continuing to grow.

We have amazing teachers who are at different stages of experience. We work to support and strengthen the skills of all of our teachers here at Elizabeth Hall, and we will continue to improve teaching with the goal of raising achievement for all students.

The dedicated teachers at our school work hard to support students as they learn and grow. We are honored by their commitment and dedication. Our teachers take pride in their profession and welcome the opportunity to develop and strengthen their skills. They genuinely want to be the best teachers possible for our students.

Thank you for choosing Elizabeth Hall as the place for your child/children. We are glad they are here and we work hard every single day to provide them with a quality educational experience.

If you are interested in learning more about the Minneapolis Public Schools' teacher evaluation system, feel free to visit the MPS website at [www.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us).

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at 612-668-2650.

Sincerely,

C. Bennice Young  
Principal



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