

September 14, 2011

Dear Families,

As we begin a new year I am excited about the prospect of working with 220 5th and 6th grade students. It is exciting to see the growth in our returning students (both physically and mentally) and to welcome the new 5th graders for an exciting year of learning!

Our new staff has acclimated quickly and together with our returning staff, are excited to teach your child. The staff spent over three weeks of professional development time this summer in order to prepare themselves for this year.

We are embarking on a new reading program this year called the 100 Book Challenge. With this program, each student must read at least one hour per day. Every fifteen minutes that a student reads counts as a step and every student should read four steps a day. Two of these steps should be read at home. We are encouraging parents to read with their children to help them to acquire their two home steps. Each child should have a book that they are reading, so ask your child when they come home, "What book are you reading?" If you would like more information about the program, please go their website: <http://www.americanreading.com/products/100bc/>.

This year also begins our first Parent Council. The parents leading this group are Lourdes Vasquez, Yanira Rodriguez, and Marisol Muniz. If you are interesting in becoming involved, please contact the school office. The first Parent Council meeting will take place Thursday, Sept. 15th, 2011. We are looking for ways to involve parents in every step. If you are interested in becoming involved in the school, please contact us for volunteer opportunities.

At Inwood Academy for Leadership Charter School we believe that all students can and will learn. We look forward to working hand in hand with you to provide the best possible education for your child.

Best,

Christina Reyes

**Inwood Academy for Leadership**

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