Dear 8th Grade Scholars and Families,

Welcome to your final year at Colin Powell Academy!

This is more than just the beginning of 8th grade—it is the beginning of your legacy.

As the most senior students in our school, you now stand as the ultimate leaders and mentors of the CPA student body. Younger scholars are watching you. Your choices, your work ethic, your attitude, and your example send a message. Let that message be one of strength, dignity, and purpose. Let it be one that echoes the values that have shaped our school community from the start.

At Colin Powell Academy, we lead with heart. We rise with character. We serve with pride. Our C.A.D.E.T.S. values are not just what we talk about—they are what we live:

- **Character** Be the kind of person others can trust and admire.
- **Ability** Know your strengths, sharpen your skills, and keep growing.
- **Dedication** Stay focused, stay hungry, and never give up.
- **Excellence** Aim higher. Always.
- Trustworthiness Be someone others can count on.
- **Servanthood** Lead by lifting others.

This is the year to put it all together. To show what you've learned—not just in class, but in life. It's time to take the PSAT and begin thinking seriously about the road ahead. It's time to earn your place in year-end promotion activities and leave behind a model that others can follow. Every hallway, every classroom, every bus ride, every moment is a chance to radiate leadership and maturity that reflects the best of what CPA stands for.

To our families: thank you for your continued support and partnership. Your role in helping your scholar finish strong and transition smoothly into high school is invaluable, and we are grateful to walk alongside you on this journey.

To our students: This is your moment. Embrace it with confidence, humility, and determination. Finish this chapter with purpose and pride, knowing you have the power to influence our community for the better.

Together, we lead. Together, we grow. Together, we finish strong.

With belief in your greatness,

**Aaron Pankey** 

Assistant Principal, Middle School

Colin Powell Academy