



CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE IMMERSION



“Never delay gratitude.” Pat Kelsey, Winthrop Men’s Basketball Coach

If you are around Coach Kelsey for longer than 15 minutes, you are going to hear him say that (or one of his players will.) As I think about this season of Thanksgiving and as we start a new school family, I want to express my gratitude to some special people. **1. My wife, Jan, and my kids, Whitney and Joey**, are such a blessing to me. They keep me grounded and humble. To them, I’m not “Mr. Maness” but Pat and Dad. Jan has talked me through a thousand problems to help me gain much needed perspective. I know that they love me on my best days and my worst. I hope one day I will grow up to be like them. **2. Our Cherry Park Staff Members** are such great folks. They work hard to make wise decisions for our kids and they are constantly putting in extra time in two places to get ready and be ready. Already, I know I have passionate teachers who care about our kids and they work they do. I am a lucky guy to get to hang out with them. **3. Our District Leadership Team** has been a great support through this process. Dr. Cook, Dr. Kokolis, Mr. Cox, and Dr. Jones (our Superintendent and Associate Superintendents) have given me both guidance and freedom to start Cherry Park. When they ask, “How can we help you?” I know they mean it. Dr. Brakefield, Mr. Vaughn, Mrs. Smith, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Holmes, and Mr. Jones are always just a phone call away. **4. There are so many who played such key roles over twenty years that led to the success of our immersion program.** School board members voted for us to take the next steps. Superintendents (like Dr. McDaniel, Dr. Bridges, Dr. Moody and Dr. Pew) prioritized the value of second language learning. Dr. Sheila Quinn and Mrs. Lynn Fulton Archer introduced the idea of immersion to our district years ago. Principals like Shane Goodwin, Stephen Ward, Stephanie Destasio, Rhonda Kelsey, Deborah Greenwood, and Janice Hyatt have been so supportive of language immersion

over the years. There is an endless line of teachers and staff members who took steps of courage to try a new way of teaching and learning. **5. Most importantly, you believed this was right for your children.** We really know we are leading when others follow. You believed and signed up and asked questions and helped work through the tough spots. I am, indeed, most grateful to you for taking such a risk (and I think a worthwhile risk) with your child's education. I am grateful for the trust you give and the investment you make. We would not be where we are without you.

So Grateful,

Patrick Maness, Principal

P.S. Be sure to vote in our SIC Election. (See below.)

Transportation Survey

We want to be sure we know how every student is going home. If you haven't already, please fill out one Transportation Survey for each of your children: <https://goo.gl/forms/cZ4jSS98VQ71e7iv2>. Paper copies are in the school offices at EP, RW and RD as well. **We need all surveys completed by today.**

School Improvement Council

We will elect six parents and we would like to have representation from all three schools if possible. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30 PM in the Sullivan Professional Development Room near the Cherry Park school entrance. (Look for the doors below the white arch on the right.) Please use the link below for voting. Every parent gets one vote and please complete voting by **Friday, November 23.**

<https://goo.gl/forms/bB7PhNdpO5FqPoBJ2>

Parent Teacher Organization

The PTO serves to raise funds, coordinate volunteers and encourage teachers through appreciation activities. This group will meet on Monday, November 26 at 6:30 PM to begin organization efforts. We encourage all parents to come and participate. We will meet in the Sullivan Professional Development Room near the Cherry Park entrance. (Look for the doors below the white arch on the right.)

Listening Sessions

We want to hear from you. We want to know what you think has worked well at your school and what you would like to see happen at Cherry Park Elementary in the future. We will also offer opportunities for you to ask questions. We will hold Listening Sessions tomorrow, Monday, November 19 at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. These will be in the Sullivan Professional Development Room to the right of the Cherry Park

Entrance. (Park in the Sullivan Lot and walk towards the main entrance of CP. The Sullivan PD Room will be to the right under the white arch.) We will schedule additional sessions as needed.

Got Questions?

Please don't forget that you can ask them at our [Transition Survey](#) site. These are being collected and will be answered on our FAQ page on our school website.

Calendar Dates

November 19-20 Library Books Come and Media Center Set Up
November 19—8:00 AM and 6:00 PM Listening Sessions at Sullivan PD Room
November 21-23 Thanksgiving Holidays
November 26-30 Teachers Packing Up First Load
November 26—6:30 PM First PTO Meeting in Sullivan PD Room
November 27—6:30 PM First SIC Meeting in Sullivan PD Room
November 30—Rock Hill Christmas Parade
December 1—Reindeer Romp (Girls on the Run 5K)
December 3-7 Teachers Setting Up Classrooms
December 6—6:00-8:00 PM School of Choice Fair at Central Office
December 10-14 Teachers Finish Setting Up and Kids Visit
December 12—5:30 PM Cherry Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony; 6:00-7:30 PM Open House; 4th and 5th Graders Visit CP
December 13—2nd and 3rd Graders Visit CP
December 14—Kindergarten and 1st Graders Visit CP; 9:00 AM School of Choice Tour at CP for Prospective Parents
December 17-21 All Students and Teachers Wrapping Up in Home Schools
December 17—8:30 AM Community Open House at CP; 6:30 PM School of Choice Tour at CP for Prospective Parents
December 21—Half Day for Students
January 4, 2019—Teacher Workday
January 7, 2019—First Student Day at CPES