

Frequently Asked Questions

(Updated December 30, 2018)

Arrival and Dismissal

1. Can we **drop off** elementary and middle school students at the same time? If so, where? Where will middle school students wait? Cherry Park students should be dropped off by 7:40 and should be in their classes by 7:45. Sullivan students should not be dropped off earlier than 7:45 when they open their doors. Parents with children at both schools have a number of options for consideration. First, School of Choice transportation is available to all students. Second, parents can drop off their Cherry Park student close to the 7:40 time and wait a few minutes to drop off their Sullivan student at 7:45. Third, multiple families can consider carpooling for an elementary dropoff and a separate middle school dropoff (i.e. one family do the elementary dropoff and another family do the middle school dropoff.) While we recognize that Cherry Park and Sullivan are on the same campus, this situation is the same as families who have students at Mount Gallant and Dutchman Creek, Independence and Castle Heights, York Road/Old Point and Rawlinson Road, and Oakdale and Saluda Trail.
2. When will **school routes and schedules** be updated for **buses**? Once we finish getting our Transportation Survey results, we will inform families of students riding the bus about schedules and changes. Information can be found on the District website under Transportation. All parents were mailed information as well before the Winter Holiday Break.
3. Do we have to go to the transportation department to get a new **ID card and schedule**? Parents will be able to pick these up at the Open House at Cherry Park on Dec. 12 from 6:00-7:30 PM. This information (for how to get these) should have been mailed to you.
4. How will **bus transportation work**? With it being school of choice, will the bus take them directly home or will there be a bus transfer? Students are picked up at their home and taken to our Transportation Complex. There, they get on the bus to go to their school of choice. In the afternoon, students are picked up from their school of choice and taken to the Transportation Complex and then they get on the bus to take them home. Adults supervise this process to ensure students come and go on the right buses.
5. What will be the **drop off time and pick up time**? Is the bell schedule the same? Doors will open at 7:00 AM and students need to be in their class by 7:40. Students are late at 7:45 and need to be signed in at the front office after that time. We will dismiss at 2:25. These times are standard for all elementary schools.
6. How does **busing** work if my child currently attends her zoned school and rides the bus home? Please indicate what kind of transportation your child needs on

the Transportation Survey. Instead of a regular school bus, a School of Choice bus will pick up your child.

7. What will the **morning drop off traffic pattern** look like? How can parents access the drop off loop from Eden Terrace/Caswell Street? We will encourage parents to drop off Kindergarten and First Grade students at the Cherry Road Entrance. (Older students can get out of their car at the Cherry Road Entrance and walk through the building to their arrival spot.) Second through Fifth Grade students can be dropped off at the entrance from Caswell Street (or the Caswell Entrance.) (Younger siblings in Kindergarten and First Grade can get out at the Caswell Entrance and walk through the building to their arrival spot near their classrooms.) The goal is to offset the traffic loads to our two entrances.
8. What time does **Sullivan Middle traffic start** and how will this impact Cherry Park drop off? There will be some overlap but Cherry Park starts at 7:40 and Sullivan starts at 8:30 so traffic to the two schools should not interfere much with each other.
9. If you are unable to attend the parent meeting on November 7, where can you get a **transportation survey**? These will be in paper form at the Parent Meeting and it will be sent electronically as well.
10. Do we have to **live in a certain district** to go to Cherry Park? We are in the Ebinport zone but are thinking of moving. You can attend Cherry Park as long as you live in the Rock Hill School District. If you change addresses, please inform the office. School of Choice busing is available to every student in the Rock Hill School District.
11. During the Parent Information Meeting, you discussed **drop-off and pickup** and said we could choose how to drop them off if we have kids in different grades but how would we pick them up? You will let your child's teacher know if they will be picked up at the Cherry Road Entrance or the Caswell Entrance. We will get little ones to the upper Caswell Entrance to wait with big brothers and sisters or we will get big brothers and sisters to little ones at the lower Cherry Road Entrance.
12. Do 4th and 5th grade **parents do the entire loop of what is now Sullivan MS drop off line** to get to the drop off place for the 4th and 5th graders? Seems like an incredibly long drive to drop off 4th and 5th graders. Our plan right now is for Cherry Park and Sullivan parents to use the same loop at Sullivan from Caswell Street to avoid accidents and keep kids safe. We will monitor the situation as the year begins. Our children's safety is our highest priority.
13. If we are coming from Ebinport Road, **must we turn left onto Cherry Road and drive around Sullivan** to access the correct drop off spot for a 2nd and 4th grader? If you are coming from Ebinport Road, you have two choices for dropoff. No matter what grade level your child is in, you can use the Cherry Road Entrance to drop them off. Little ones will walk directly to their waiting area downstairs and older students will walk through the building to go to their arrival spots. If you wish to drop older students off at the Caswell Entrance, you will need to turn left onto Cherry Road and circle Sullivan to get to the Caswell

Entrance. There is no left turn from Cherry Road to Caswell Street. Our simple goal in our drives is to encourage K and 1st grade students to be dropped off at the Cherry Road Entrance and upper grades students to be dropped off at the Caswell Entrance. By doing this, we believe the “loads” for each of the entrances will be more balanced and parents will have about the same amount of wait time at each entrance. We will monitor and adjust as needed.

14. My child rides a daycare van in the afternoon. Where do the **daycare vans pick up**? They will pick up in Sullivan’s bus loop around the Sullivan Faculty Parking Lot. This pickup lane for buses and vans is off of Eden Terrace and is between Sullivan’s track and the Faculty parking lot.
15. How will I know if my **child’s address is eligible** for the school of choice bus? Most all students are eligible to ride a School of Choice bus. The only ones who may not be eligible are those living close to Cherry Park Elementary who could walk. If you have questions, call 980-2022.
16. Where will my child **go in the mornings** if he/she arrives before 7:30? Kindergarten and first grade will go through the lower entrance door at the Cherry Road Entrance and will wait in the common area outside their classrooms on C Hall. Second and third graders will enter through the same door, walk upstairs, and wait in their common area outside their classrooms on B Hall. Fourth and fifth graders will wait in the Sullivan Falcon Room located between F Hall and the Sullivan Media Center. (Fourth and fifth graders will go in the doors below the white arch with “Sullivan Falcons” above the door. This is the drive on the right near the Cherry Park Main Entrance off of Caswell Street.)
17. Can students **be dismissed from the office between 2:00-2:30**? Students cannot be dismissed during that time. At the end of our day, we are transitioning 730 students to go home safely. If students have medical appointments, they should be signed out before 2:00.

Cafeteria and Lunch

18. Will the **meal funds** that were already deposited for student meals be moved to Cherry Park? Yes.
19. Will **schedules stay the same** as far as lunch/specials go for the remainder of this year? Probably not. Currently, the three schools have different lunch and related arts schedules. We will send out lunch times and related arts schedules once they are finalized.

Challenger After School Care Program

20. Will Cherry Park offer the **Challenger Program**? Yes. How will Challenger work? It will work similarly to how it has worked in the home schools. We will have two directors given the size of our program. Mr. Robbie Bartless is the Director and Mrs. Amy Giles is the Assistant Director. Parents will pick up students at our main entrance from Caswell Street. In order to have a safe dismissal, Challenger students can be signed out **starting at 3:00**. If a parent

needs to pick up a Challenger student before then, please send the child's teacher a note saying how he/she will go home (i.e. Cherry Park Entrance Car Rider, Caswell Entrance Car Rider, Bus Rider, etc.)

21. What are the options for **after school care**? Will it pick up immediately upon the school opening? The Challenger After School Program will begin on January 7, our first day with students. Students will transition to their designated locations right after school as they have done in the home schools. Students will be divided into classes by grade level and ages as is appropriate.
22. If we have a current CP student, **will their siblings be grandfathered** into CP? Yes. Younger siblings of current CP students will be grandfathered into the program if parents fill out the required School of Choice application by February 28. This is the same process we have used the past two years.

Extracurricular Activities

23. Do you know yet if students serving on **Safety Patrol** now will be able to continue at CPES? Yes. All safety patrol will continue at Cherry Park.
24. Will there be a **Beta Club** at CPES? Yes. Mrs. Riley from Ebinport will sponsor that at CP.
25. Will there be other **extracurricular activities** for the remainder of this school year at CPES? We will definitely have a Science Bowl team and Battle of the Books team. We will also have Girls on the Run in the spring as well. We will keep you informed of other opportunities as they develop.
26. Will there be **school shirts** for sale? Yes. As soon as we establish our PTO or hire our bookkeeper, we will be able to set up a process for ordering new school shirts. We will keep you posted.
27. Is there a **field where students can play soccer** at recess? We will have a play area for our upper grades students that is separate from our kindergarten students. We are working on growing grass there so we may have to access other areas at the beginning of the year until we have a great place to play soccer. Given our location, we have some good options.
28. Will there be a **4th and 5th grade choir**? We are not sure at this time. Mrs. Rezzai, our music teacher, will consider that once she starts work with us in December. If so, she will let you know.

First Days of School

29. My child is worried about getting lost in the new building. Will I be able to **walk her to her classroom** the first few days of school? Also, will there be adults positioned throughout the halls to help children find their way around as they adjust to a new building? We are planning to start school on January 7 just like the beginning of the year. Parents can walk their children to class for the first few days and we will have lots of adults in the halls to help little ones know where to go. We are fortunate that for our little ones in kindergarten and first grade, if they

are dropped off at the Cherry Road Entrance, they will walk straight into the area that is closest to their classrooms.

Instruction

30. How will the **French and Spanish programs interact**? Is there a chance the English sections of the programs could have mixed groups from the different programs? French and Spanish students will interact in similar ways as immersion and neighborhood students did in the home schools. They will be together during recess and they will be in the cafeteria during the same time. We want to keep things consistent as we make the transition and then we will look for appropriate opportunities for the groups to interact. French and Spanish students in the same grade levels will be on the same hallways. We want them to make new friends and learn from each other.
31. When are the **GT classes** being held for which grades and who is teaching it? Mrs. Heather McNay is our Gifted and Talented teacher and schedules have not been finalized yet. Most likely, fourth and fifth grade will have one full day of GT each week and third grade will have a half day of GT each week. This allows us to meet the state requirements for time in GT.
32. What are the **grade levels** for Chery Road new location? Kindergarten through Fifth Grades. Sullivan Middle houses Sixth through Eighth Grades and Sullivan is the location for our Middle School Language Immersion students.
33. What are the **school options after they complete his/her time** at the Cherry Road School? Students can continue in the immersion program in middle school. Sullivan Middle receives those students and has an immersion program both in French and Spanish for students who completed the elementary immersion program. Students in middle school who have a high fluency in French and Spanish can test into the program as well. They would need to contact Delandris Jones, the District World Language Coordinator.
34. Will there be any **school supplies or classroom supplies** you need parents to help buy? No. All student school supplies purchased for classrooms at the beginning of the year will transfer to CPES. If we need help with anything else, we will let you know.
35. Will Spanish Immersion students from Richmond Drive and Ebinport be in the **same classes starting the 2019-2020** school year? Richmond Drive and Ebinport students will be mixed together next fall. At that point, they are all Cherry Park students.

Parent Involvement

36. When will the **School Improvement Council and Parent Teacher Organization** meet? The SIC and PTO will usually meet on the third Monday this spring (unless it is a school holiday). SIC will meet at 5:30 PM in the Office

Conference Room and PTO will meet at 6:30 PM in the Media Center. Spring meetings will be Tuesday January 22, Monday February 18, Monday March 18, Monday April 22 and Monday May 20.

37. Will there be a **Facebook group** for immersion parents at CP like the one at Ebinport? We will have one schoolwide Facebook page that will keep parents informed. We will also have Twitter and Instagram.
38. Where do **parents park** when coming for school functions during the day? How does this coincide with staff parking? There are few visitor parking spots in front of the main entrance off of Caswell Street. Most families will want to park in the Sullivan lot and walk over to the main entrance. Staff members will park in the lot at the Cherry Road entrance and in the lot at the Caswell Entrance.
39. Do you need **parent volunteers to help with any of the transition**? If yes, please give times for working and nonworking parents. We are thinking through all of that right now. We will keep you posted.
40. Will Cherry Park have a **signature fundraiser** like Tiger Trot at Richmond Drive? Most likely. We have found it most beneficial to do few fundraisers well rather than doing lots of little ones that take lots of energy with little profits. We do not want to be a school that “nickels and dimes” parents to death with lots of fundraisers. We will have Book Fairs throughout the year and we will have Fall and Spring Pictures. Most likely, we will have ice cream sales on Fridays. Beyond that, we want to limit fundraisers if we can.
41. To help build a connected school community, could Cherry Park have a **parent directory** that parents could opt-in and share phone and email contacts? We will talk with the district to determine what issues or concerns would need to be considered for this. This would need to be studied and discussed given the value (and regulations) of privacy of information.

Safety

42. What is **Cherry Park doing about safety**? All doors inside and outside of the building are keycard access. We drill monthly on a variety of safety situations. Teachers receive yearly training on best practices in keeping students safe. CPES is blessed to have access to a resource officer who is housed next door at Sullivan Middle School. The school will have common procedures for promoting the safety of our students.
43. What **facilities will CP share with Sullivan**? CPES and SMS will have separate facilities (including cafeteria, PE space, Music space, etc.) to serve the needs of elementary and middle school students. Mr. Roldan and Mr. Maness will work together to share spaces that may be beneficial to students in special situations. These opportunities will be supervised by staff members. For example, CPES may reserve Sullivan’s auditorium for assemblies. SMS might use Cherry Park’s PE room after school hours for an athletic team for practice.
44. Will **Sullivan students** be able to enter the new building or are they physically separated inside? They are physically separated. Keycard access doors will be

installed between Sullivan and Cherry Park. Only adults with appropriate keycards can access Cherry Park.

45. What is the school/teachers/principals doing about school **bullying**? We involve our staff, our families and our students in addressing the issue of bullying. We investigate all situations and respond appropriately based on the facts of each case. Our school counselor teaches students about bullying, how to respond appropriately, and when to tell an adult. We want every child to enjoy school and look forward to coming to Cherry Park. Bullying is addressed quickly and appropriately by staff and administration.

Yearbook

46. Will they get a **yearbook** this year from CP? No. If you would like a yearbook, please purchase one from your home school. CPES will not have enough time to pull one together this spring in order to make the deadlines for publishing a yearbook.

If you have further questions, please go to our [Parent Transition Survey](#) where you can ask questions.