



CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE IMMERSION



What If Everybody Did That?

Over the last five weeks, we are doing what no one else has done. We are transitioning three school families into one. On any given day, we know we do things differently than one of the three previous schools. We also realize that we do things differently than any of the other schools in Rock Hill. We are blessed to have this unique opportunity which also comes with unique challenges. Often, the question comes, “Why do I have to do that?” (This comes from parents, students and staff.) We know you are so kind to think the question rather than ask it directly. Other times, you verbalize it and that is good, too. (That will always be true. If you want to know, just ask.) Often, the reason we put a rule, guideline, procedure or system in place is because there is a safety issue or a teaching/learning issue. For example, the reason we don’t allow student dismissals after 2:00 is because we are transitioning 715 kids to new locations and we want to do that as securely as possible. It takes multiple staff members to find the right child and get him delivered to the right person when notified of a dismissal change after 2:00. (Of course, we will do all we can when there is an emergency.) We can maybe pull that off for one family. Two would be hard and three would be extremely difficult. There is no way we could do that for everyone whenever they wanted. Here is another example. We ask that visitors make an appointment if they want to see a teacher or come to a classroom. By doing this, the teacher can arrange her schedule to meet the parent and interruptions to teaching and learning will be minimal. If we allowed anyone and everyone to step down to classrooms without limits, student achievement would be negatively impacted. Kids would not have the time to learn what they need to learn. As we (parents, students and staff) think about the next question/request/concern

that we might have at Cherry Park Elementary, it would be good for us to consider an important question: What would happen if everybody (parent, student, staff member) did that? The answer to that question will probably answer “why do I have to do that?” Thanks for all that you do to make a difference in your child and our school.

Mr. Maness, Principal



Advance-Ed Parent Survey

Our school is preparing for an accreditation review by a team of educators from the AdvancED organization. For the AdvancED review team to assess our continuous improvement, we must gather information from our parents, students, and staff. To assist us in this effort, please take a few moments to complete this brief survey by **Monday, February 25**. We appreciate your time and continued support of our school.

<https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#/action/86548/p2089>

Winthrop Back the Pack Basketball Game—Will be **Saturday, February 23 at 2:00 PM** at Winthrop Coliseum. The elementary school with the most attendees (by number and percentage of enrollment) can win \$1000 for their school. This is an easy fundraiser that can make such a difference in our school. Please be sure to put your ticket in the Cherry Park Elementary bucket. Admission is free with the donation to Back the Pack of a can of vegetable or chicken noodle soup or a Beef a Roni. Our Back the Pack program has moved to providing more meal-based items for students. Tickets will also be on sale for \$5. (See attached flyer.)

Caswell Dropoff in the Morning

Beginning last Friday, we closed the access to the Sullivan Parking Lot that is closest to Eden Terrace. If you need to park in that lot, you can come through the single lane beside Sullivan's

Auditorium and then turn left into the Sullivan Parking Lot across from the Sullivan Media Center. We continue to try to find the best solutions that keep Sullivan and Cherry Park students safe each morning.



Read Across America Week (Monday, February 25—Friday, March 1)

This is a fun week where we celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and have a special emphasis on reading. (See flyer.) Everyone is invited to participate in each day's activities that are based on a Dr. Seuss book:

Monday – Fox in Socks Day--Wear your favorite crazy socks!

Tuesday – Cat in the Hat Day--Dress up to match your twin!

Wednesday – Put Me in the Zoo--Dress up as your favorite zoo animal!

Thursday – Oh the Places You'll Go--Dress up like what you want to be when you grow up!

Friday – One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish--Dress up as your favorite Dr. Seuss character!

Book Fair during Read Across America Week (Monday, February 25-Friday, March 1)

The Book Fair is coming to Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion. In fact, it will be the first book fair at our new school. Students will be able to shop at the book fair beginning **Monday, February 25** and may do so each day until the fair closes on **Friday, March 1**. The book fair will be open each day from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM. As always, parents are welcome to shop with students during lunch and after school. The link below will take you to our book fair homepage. In addition to the dates and times the book fair will be open, you can keep track of the progress we are making toward the school goal, access an expanded version of the book fair flyer sent home with students, and shop our online fair. **The online fair is available February 16 – March 8, so you may begin shopping NOW!** No cash on hand the day of the Book Fair? No worries – Scholastic Book Fairs is now offering Book Fair eWallet as a new

payment option. Simply set up an account and have funds immediately available for your child to shop the Book Fair. Safe and secure – it's easy shopping with Book Fair eWallet. Find information about how eWallet works and to set up an account for your child, please visit the book fair homepage

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/cherryparkelementary>

Sixth Grade Letter of Intent for Middle School Immersion

Attached is a letter explaining the process for continuing in the immersion program in middle school. We realize that there are some information meetings ahead that will help provide guidance in making this decision. You can go to this website (<https://goo.gl/forms/VnE4pZ0hZ3ENmdDo1>) to complete the letter of intent as well. We would like to have these completed by February 19 if at all possible.

First Grade French Immersion Next Fall

Please help pass on the word to other families that we are going to allow a limited number of new students to join our First Grade French classes next fall. Current kindergarten students who are not at CPESOLI can apply for First Grade French Immersion for next fall. They must complete the application by February 28. Limited slots are available. (This is only for French Immersion in first grade for next year.)

School of Choice Calendar

The application window opened **December 3 and stays open until February 28**. If you have a rising kindergarten student who has a sibling already in the immersion program, you need to complete a School of Choice application. Rising K5 students who have siblings already in the program are grandfathered into the program if an application is filled out during the application window. You can go to the [School of Choice Webpage](#) to complete the application. Please tell friends and neighbors about our program.

Parent Teacher Organization and School Improvement Council Update

The PTO serves to raise funds, coordinate volunteers and encourage teachers through appreciation activities. We had a great meeting last week and minutes from the meeting were sent out earlier this week. We will meet again on **Monday, February 18 at 6:30 PM** to continue organization efforts. We encourage all parents to come and participate. We will meet in the Cherry Park Elementary Library starting in January. Meeting dates have been set for the following Mondays at 6:30 PM for the rest of the year: **March 18, April 22 and May 20. Our School Improvement Council will meet on the same days at 5:30 PM** in the Office Conference Room. All parents are invited to attend either or both meetings. Both groups are working on bylaws and have started organizational efforts. There will be a table at Open House to sign up for PTO and to volunteer. **We would like to have at least one representative from each of the schools on the PTO Leadership Team** so we can take the best ideas from all the PTO's and put them into practice for our CPES PTO. The group at PTO divided into committees

to work on Bylaws, Fundraising, Volunteers and Teacher Appreciation. We hope you can come and join one of these subcommittees.

Got Questions?

Attached are answers for our Transition FAQ. 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 as well.

Calendar Dates

February 18—Bad Weather Makeup Day (School is in session.)

Monday, February 18--5:30 PM SIC (Office Conference Room); 6:30 PM PTO (Media Center)

Saturday, February 23—2:00 Winthrop Back the Pack Game v. Charleston Southern

Monday, February 25--Parent Survey for Advance Ed Due

Monday, February 25-Friday, March 1—Read Across America Week and Book Fair

Thursday, February 28--School of Choice Applications Due

Monday, March 18—Teacher Workday/Student Holiday

Friday, March 22—Report Cards Go Home

April 15-19—Spring Break

Attachments:

 [Read Across America Week.pdf](#) (99.7 KB)

 [WUBTP2019.pdf](#) (8.9 MB)
