



CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE IMMERSION



How Are We Coming Together?

Given the challenge of “three becoming one,” I am so excited to see big and little ways that we are coming together as a new school family. Here are a few insights for what I’ve observed during the first two weeks of our children and staff. **1. We are playing together.** At recess, we notice kids from Ebinport playing with kids from Rosewood and Rosewood playing with Richmond Drive and Richmond Drive playing with Ebinport. There is a little less of “us” and a little more of “we.” **2. Staff members are appreciating each other.** At our Tuesday faculty meeting, I asked, “Who would you like to thank for helping you with the start?” I expected our faculty members to express appreciation to those who they’ve worked with over the years and who would be the people they might naturally lean on for help. It was exactly the opposite. The

praise and value expressed was for people they barely knew who made a difference to them. **3. We are working together.** Without being asked, each grade level and special area team has already begun meeting together and planning instruction. They are excited to have someone else who identifies with their experience and can share tips and tricks they found successful. **4. We are learning each others' names.** For me, I met Logan and Xavier and SC and Tori and Sadie and Bennett who I did not know. As each day comes and goes, I have a greater sense that these are “my children” and not someone else’s. Your children are funny and bright and kind. You see, I always tell kids that there are only two kinds of kids who attend our school: those who are smart and good. I have been proven right every day. I want you to know that I consider it a blessing and a privilege to lead Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion. I look forward to doing life with you. Thanks for all the ways you have supported the transition.

Mr. Maness, Principal

Sullivan Middle School Immersion Parent Night (For Current 5th grade & 6th grade Immersion Families.) Thursday, February 7 at 6:00 PM in the Sullivan Auditorium

Everyone is welcome! We will:

- Inform immersion families about immersion at Sullivan
- Provide insight into the transition from Cherry Park Elementary to Sullivan Middle immersion
- Explain the 6th-grade immersion curriculum
- Current 6th-grade students will share testimonials
- Explain 7th-grade immersion
- School Tours for Sullivan will be January 23 and February 13 from 8:30-10:00 AM

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. We will have tours at CPESOLI on Wednesday, January 30 at 8:00 AM and Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30 PM.

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 **Tuesday, January 22, 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: **February 18, 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

Monday, January 21--Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Tuesday, January 22—5:30 PM School Improvement Council (Office Conference Room); 6:30 PM Parent Teacher Organization Meeting (Media Center)

Wednesday, January 23—8:30-10:00 AM Sullivan Middle School of Choice Tour

Thursday, January 24—3:00-4:30 Leadership York County School Tour and Forum at CPESOLI

Wednesday, January 30--Prospective Parent/School of Choice Tour for CPES at 8:00 AM

Wednesday, February 6--CARLA Conference School Visit (During the morning we will host 40 attendees of the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition Conference that will be in Charlotte, NC.)

Thursday, February 7—Current Fifth Grade and Sixth Grade Immersion Parent Meeting at 6:00 at Sullivan Auditorium

February 12--Prospective Parent Tour for CPES at 6:30 PM

February 13—8:30-10:00 AM Sullivan Middle School of Choice Tour

February 14—Valentine's Day

February 15 and 18—Bad Weather Makeup Days (School is in session.)

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

February 23—2:00 Winthrop Back the Pack Game
