



# CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE IMMERSION



## What Do You Think About Being Fifty, Mr. Maness?

First of all, I want to say a big “Thank You” to our school family. Words truly can’t express how blessed I feel. You treated me better than I deserve and I am so grateful. To be honest, I have been a bit reflective about turning 50. I should be. Here are some things I know now that I really didn’t understand twenty years ago. I hope these thoughts may be helpful to you. **1. The days are long and the years are short.** It seems like it was yesterday that I was teaching my son, Joey, to ride his bike. This week, he drove to school for the first time. I clearly remember walking my daughter, Whitney, into school for her first day of kindergarten. Today, we discussed what she will do after college. Time...passes...quickly. Don’t wish away today. Tomorrow will come sooner than you think. **2. I think I have figured some things out,**

**but there is still so much I don't know.** I tell people all the time that I go to school every day. By that, I mean that I am still learning. I learn from people like me, but I learn more from people who are different from me. One would think that after twenty years as an administrator that I have seen it all and done it all. Fat chance. Change is the only constant in our lives and we must learn well how to adapt to it. Easy say and a hard do. **3. The first person I must lead every day is myself.** No one else can take care of my physical, mental, social and emotional needs. Others can be helpful (and they are), but I am ultimately responsible for being the most healthy me that I can be. The only way I can positively impact others is when my own tanks are full. Good self-care always leads to meaningful "others" care. **4. I can't do it alone.** I have come to realize I can't do life without others. Songwriter Bill Withers said "we all need somebody to lean on" and the truth is we need "somebodies." Life is most dangerous when we isolate ourselves and believe we can fly solo. When we do that, disaster is right around the corner. Over the years, I wish I would have asked for help more instead of trying to do it all by myself. For me, fifty is just a number. At this point, I'm looking forward to seeing what the next fifty have in store as well. Again, thank you for making Friday such a great memory. I consider it a privilege and an honor to be with you and do what I do.

Mr. Maness, Principal

### **Nominations for PTO Leadership for 19-20**

We want to begin planning now for next year for our PTO Leadership. If you have a nomination, you can go to the link below to submit that person's name. Please ask them before submitting their name.

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgoo.gl%2Fforms%2FAe8kWKU1wQ9KuvGL2&data=02%7C01%7Cpmaness%40rhmail.org%7C231cdbe062a14403bf2f08d6ad5b900a%7C57b835c11a6c40088e2fb2a16e5f738a%7C0%7C0%7C636887006150972835&sdata=qCaqiSrWqVShUWUkZZxD4cgGf9i%2F95M3LUhNAIcqdx4%3D&reserved=0>

### **Field Day**

We will have two field days in May. On May 24, we will have our Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Field Day in the morning. On May 31, we will have our Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Field Day and it will be all day. Most likely, we will have them across the street in the Cherry Park fields. We will send home permission slips and volunteer signups about Field Day after Spring Break. We wanted to let you know about these days so you can plan for them. We will need volunteers at both events to help them be a fun day for our kids. If you want to volunteer, you must have a **current background screening** completed and you can go here to submit that if needed: <https://www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/Page/3391> We realize all three schools did Field Day differently. To best address safety and security concerns, we want to make sure you know that we will not be able to allow visitors to walk up and visit at Field Day. We will not have any way to check ID's across the street. All adults at Field Day will be prescreened and will wear bracelets indicating they are staff or volunteers. As always, we welcome parents to

visit with their child during lunch those days. Field Day is a day for our kids and we want them to be safe and secure while having fun.

### **Battle of the Books**

Will be this Friday, March 29. We want to wish our team all the best as they go and compete. Sadie Bridges, Campbell Compton, Jack McCrae, Hayden Powell, Tori Smrekar, and James Townsend will represent CPES. Jaxon Thomas and Isaiah Wilson are our alternates.

### **Let Me Run Cherry Park Elementary School--REGISTER TODAY**

Cherry Park will have Let Me Run this spring!!! Currently, we have more boys than can be served by our current coaches. If you would like to help coach, please contact Mrs. Kennedy or Mr. Questelle at their email addresses below.

Let Me Run is a running program for **4<sup>th</sup>& 5<sup>th</sup>** grade boys, but it's more about the boy than the run. Counteracting the negative pressures society places on boys, the program uses running as the vehicle to inspire, teach, and reach them. Combining exercise with fun activities and lessons, our trained coaches inspire boys to be courageous enough to be themselves, build healthy relationships, and live an active lifestyle. Registration is now open!

**REGISTER TODAY** - 2018 Spring season starts on **March 26th, 2019** and meets **TUESDAY AND THURSDAY** after school from 2:30- 3:30 pm. The season ends with the Let Me Run 5k race on May 18, 2019.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more.

REGISTER AT: <http://www.letmerun.org/region/greater-charlotte-area/teams> or request a paper registration form

QUESTIONS? Email Coach Nate Questelle [ultinate@yahoo.com](mailto:ultinate@yahoo.com) or Coach Mary Ann Kennedy [tigerunner2000@gmail.com](mailto:tigerunner2000@gmail.com)

### **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, April 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: **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. 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. Here is the link if you wish to receive the PTO Newsletter:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffeepurl.com%2FghLsUj&mp;data=02%7C01%7Cpmaness%40rhmail.org%7C86c7b468d60e47e7bc6408d698d1dd08%7C57b835c11a6c40088e2fb2a16e5f738a%7C0%7C0%7C636864424472780226&data=mPE0idItkxHbbBFMdR3NqMJRd5aMOH7ANFPB0OcQuWA%3D&reserved=0>

## **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**

Tuesday, March 26—Report Cards Go Home (This was delayed until Tuesday due to our Bad Weather Days)

Friday, March 29—Battle of the Books

April 4-13—Come See Me Festival (Go to <https://www.comeseeme.org/> for more information.)

April 15-19—Spring Break

Monday, April 22—School will be in session. Originally, this was a holiday but due to our bad weather, it is a makeup day for us.

May 7—SC READY Reading Test (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades)

May 9—SC READY Writing Test (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades)

May 14—SC READY Math Test (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades)

May 16—SC PASS Science Test (4<sup>th</sup> Grade) and SC PASS Social Studies Test (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

May 24—Kindergarten through Second Grade Field Day (in the morning)

May 27—Memorial Day Holiday (No School)

May 31—Third through Fifth Grades Field Day (all day)

June 3—9:00 Fifth Grade Graduation (Sullivan Middle School Auditorium); Half Day for Students

June 4—Half Day for Students and Last School Day

June 8—High School Graduation Day (10:00 RHHS, 2:00 NWHS, 6:00 SPHS)