

Lillie E. Suder Elementary School

A Message from the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community Stakeholders,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I am extremely excited to begin the school year with all of our Wildcat Families. Each new school year brings with it the promise of what is before us. I believe this school year will present more opportunities for our school community to grow closer together and for our school to continue our quest for excellence for every learner.

Learning to read and write is one of life's most important achievements. A student's success in literacy development enhances learning in all subject areas, helps create a love of learning, and paves the way for future economic success and a rewarding life. Therefore, as educators, we must commit to insure that every child is literate.

Suder Elementary administrators and teachers have analyzed student performance data to decide on focus areas for this year. Our goal for student achievement this year is that students will increase academic achievement in Pre-K through 5th grade through the use of data-driven decision-making and instruction that ensures a rigorous, collaborative, engaging learning environment that is both safe and nurturing.

ELA Goal: The overall percent of students scoring at Proficient or Distinguished Learner levels on the Georgia Milestones Assessment will increase by 7% percentage points.

- Build stamina for reading by reading nightly, recording on the Reading Log, and include a parent signature

- Learn all sight words and access educational websites to increase literacy skills

- Read with expression, fluency and build comprehension skills

I also believe that building strong relationships between home and school is a key factor in increasing student achievement. As principal, I welcome your input. I strongly believe that parental involvement is an essential component to student success, as research continues to show strong correlation between increased involvement and high student success. If you are new to Suder, welcome to a wonderful learning community.

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Sharon Jones

September 2017



A Message from the Assistant Principal's Desk

Greetings,

We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she: 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life 5) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject 6) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school and be college/career ready.

At Suder, we follow a progressive discipline plan which is as follows: Wildcat Expectations:

P: preparation for success

R: respect for one another

I: integrity in words and actions

D: determination to exceed expectations

E: extra effort in all that we do

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Smith

Vision Statement

The vision of Clayton County Public Schools is to be a district of excellence preparing ALL students to live and compete successfully in a global society.

Mission Statement

The mission of Clayton County Schools is to be accountable to all stakeholders for providing a globally competitive education that empowers students to achieve academic and personal goals and to become college and career ready, productive, responsible citizens.

Instructional Site Facilitators

Welcome to the Pride Pack!

We are elated to have the following instructional site facilitators to assist us with instruction this year at Suder Elementary.

Carolyn Rupert, K-2 ELA

Sara Amonette, 3-5 ELA

Jo Hollis, K-2 Math

Attilah Brookshire, 3-5 Math

Sancia Berkley, Science

Instructional Site Facilitators are county-level coaches whose primary role is to support and work alongside teachers and students in the classroom. They help teachers make connections between curriculum and continuous improvement.

Counselor's Corner

Studies show that chronic absenteeism is a red alert that students are headed for academic trouble and eventually for dropping out of high school. Partner with us this year to increase attendance and bring your child one step closer to realizing their UNLIMITED potential!

I look forward to establishing a positive relationship with each of you so we can maximize the academic, social, and emotional abilities of your child. I assure you that I will work hard each and every day to provide your son or daughter with the best possible guidance as they progress in their elementary school experience.

Mr. McSwain, Counselor

A Healthy School, Is a Happy School

Welcome back! Let us all work together to keep Suder a healthy place to learn and grow!

Please make sure that you have completed and returned the School Health Program form that came home with your child the first week of school. We must have this form on file in the Clinic so that your child can be sent to the School Clinic with any health concerns.

The School Health Program form also has an area for you to list any health conditions or allergies that your child may have, please make sure that you list them so that your child's teachers and myself can be aware in case of an emergency. Also, all medication must have a physician and parent authorization form signed and on file in the Clinic before any medication can be brought to the school. Students are not allowed to transport any medication to school unless it is an inhaler per county policy. Parents/ Guardians must transport the medication to school and sign before the medication can be administered. Please make sure that your phone numbers are current and updated so that we can get in contact with you in case of an emergency.

We accept donations of clean new or gently used uniforms that your children have outgrown. If you have any that you would like to donate feel free to send them to the Clinic at any time through the year! We also accept donations of new/ used belts, brand new un-opened under garments, and brand new un-opened socks. If you have any further questions or concerns feel free to call or email me anytime! I look forward to working with you and your child/ children here at Suder again this year! Let's have a wonderful and productive year!

Sheryl Johnson, Healthcare Technician

Media Center

Media Center Newsletter Information

The Media Center is focused on promoting lifelong reading so students can increase Lexile scores and compete globally. Lexile is used to measure both the reading ability of the student and text complexity of reading materials. We use Lexile measure to match students' reading ability with books from the Media Center to put them on the path for success.

During the month of September, I have been working with classes, helping students learn how to find books within their Lexile range. Students are also using Accelerated Reader to quiz on books that they have checked out from the Media Center. During October, I will work with classes on using the program to set goals as well. Reading is like any other skill: students need to practice daily in order to improve so don't forget to sign their reading logs daily. Teachers use the reading logs as a homework grade.



Parent Liaison

Greetings Parents,

I'm your Parent Liaison for the 2017-2018 school year. I am located in the Parent Resource Center, room 143. My focus for the 2017-2018 school year is to actively involve parents in their child's academic success by increasing the number of parent volunteers and motivating parents to complete the Parent Academy (six parent workshops). Please join me in this mission through volunteering and attending monthly parent workshops. Together, we can make this a parental engagement school year to remember!

We would be love to have your assistance. You MUST have a current background check on-file with the front office in order to volunteer in the classroom and attend or chaperone field trips. Please verify and/or pick up and return your volunteer background check as soon as possible

Ms. Crawford



Classroom News

Kindergarten Kaleidoscope

Greetings Wildcat Nation,

We are off to a fantastic year! We are having fun exploring with our five senses in science. In math we will begin comparing numbers. Our students are also enjoying identifying letters and sounds.

Please read daily with your child(ren) and continue to practice writing and counting skills daily.

Thanks for your continued support!



Fabulous First Grade

Our First Grade Wildcats have welcomed autumn by beginning a new science unit on weather and seasons. By conducting investigations as they explore the phenomena of weather, students will discover the weather patterns of each season. In Math, instruction consists of concepts in place value, addition and subtraction. Important figures who contributed to our nation's history will be studied in Social Studies. Reading becomes more complex as students develop fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Please continue to assist your child in reading each day, and entering those books on the reading log. Since writing is an important component in each subject area, our students are learning to express their critical thinking skills and creativity in different writing genres. Conventions of spelling and grammar are also taught in the writing process.

Field trips are an enjoyable way to enrich the curriculum. Many of our best memories as students revolve around field trips. We have several field trips planned this year, including Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary, The Center for Puppetry Arts, Interactive Science Bus, and The World of Coca-Cola. All field trips are standards-based and aligned with our curriculum.

Spectacular Second Grade

Our amazing second graders have been working very hard and learning a lot of fantastic new skills. In Math, students have learned about place value and skip counting. They have begun learning how to collect data and use graphs to answer questions.

Students have also become scientist and completed inquiry activities where they were able to explore their classroom and find different types of matter. They have also learned properties of solids, liquids and gases.

In Social Studies, students have learned the different Georgia regions and rivers. Students are working hard on reading fluency and learning a ton of new words every week. Students have been practicing spelling sounds and identifying subjects and predicates in Language Arts.

Please continue to read every night. We are looking forward to a great year!

Terrific Third Grade

We are approaching our first 9 weeks of the school year! As always, we are very excited and enthusiastic about teaching your child this year in 3rd grade. It is in your child's best interest that we all work together in regard to his/her education. Thus, we are asking for your help and support for the remainder of this year.

Good behavior is expected in our classrooms. We are using a particular behavior plan, P.R.I.D.E., and ask that you as parents support it and encourage good behavior. Parents please make sure that your child comes to school in the appropriate uniform. Please make sure your child is completing their homework nightly. Homework should take approximately 30 minutes to 1 hour per night to complete. Assignments are sent home daily.

We ask that you attend all conferences and request a conference right away if you have any concerns about your child's academic progress.

In class we are covering Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying (Math); Unit 2 start October 2nd Cooperation (Reading); Conservation of Resources and Pollution (Science); American Indian Cultures (Social Studies). Please remember to sign up for Remind101. This is an additional way to keep in contact with upcoming events.

Thank you for all you do.

Progressive Pre-Kindergarten

The curriculum in Pre-Kindergarten is the We Can Early Learning Curriculum. Each day in Pre-Kindergarten will be filled with whole group, small group, and extension activities that allow children to actively apply what they are learning. The students will engage in collaborative conversations about theme related topics. They will be introduced to many skills across the curriculum areas: literacy, math, social studies, and science. They will be introduced to and use vocabulary words related to the theme. Students will also practice important social and emotional skills for working collaboratively with their peers.

Monthly newsletters will be sent home to inform parents of your child's academic learning. Parents, please practice these skills at home. The more the skill is practiced the better they will become at the skill.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs. Carrington and Mrs. W. Johnson

Upcoming Events

October 2-6, 2017- Georgia Pre-K Week

October 5, 2017- District Wide Open House 5pm-7pm

October 6, 2017- Early Release Day

October 9, 2017- Fall Break (no school)

October 10, 2017- Staff Development Day (no school for students)

October 26, 2017- PTA @6pm

October 31, 2017- Early Release Day

November 2, 2017- School Council Meeting (8am-9am)

November 20-24, 2017- Thanksgiving Break (no school for students)

November 10, 2017- Turkey Trot

November 15, 2017- Thanksgiving Luncheon Grades PK-2

November 16, 2017- Thanksgiving Luncheon Grades 3-5

November 21-25, 2017- THANKSGIVING BREAK

December 14-20, 2017- Holiday Store

December 21, 2017 - January 5, 2018- Winter Break



Fantastic Fourth Grade

Our students have already begun weekly multiplication drills. Practicing every day will ensure success as students learn their facts. The best strategy for mastery of any skill is practice! If students have mastered the multiplications facts, simply use the inverse operation and have them learn the division facts as well. Fact Dash, which can be found on McGraw-Hill's ConnectED, is a great resource!

Fourth grade students are making wonderful progress on building reading skills. Reading comprehension and fluency are essential in building successful readers and critical thinkers. Each night, students should bring home their library books. Please make reading an important part of their daily routine. Let's continue to encourage students to read at least thirty minutes every day. Let's have an amazing year!

The best way to predict the future is to create it.
~Abraham Lincoln

Futuristic Fifth Grade

The fifth grade teachers and students are excited and off to a great start this school year. In English/Language Arts we are focused on developing comprehension strategies that will enable them to manipulate grade-level texts of appropriate complexity and to communicate effectively both in writing and in speaking. Students should read daily and log their reading on their book logs. From October 1st through March 31st we will participate in the Pizza Hut Book-It! Program. Students will receive a coupon for a free one-topping personal pan pizza for meeting monthly reading goals as set by the teacher.

Our mathematicians are working on division and multiplication concepts. We conduct weekly multiplication fact drills, so let's "count on" parental reinforcement in preparing for these weekly drills. We recently finished a unit on physical and chemical changes and are gearing up for the topics of electricity and magnetism in science. In social studies we wrapped up the unit by answering the compelling question: Did the Reconstruction successfully solve the problems caused by the Civil War?

Fifth graders will soon receive information regarding this year's Fairs. Students will participate in either the Science Fair or the Social Studies Fair. Please familiarize yourself with the fifth grade curriculum by visiting the following site: www.georgiastandards.org. Begin thinking of a grade appropriate topic and prepare to delve further in each subject.

We look forward to our first field trip on Friday, October 20th to the College Football Hall of Fame and an adventurous year of learning.

Visual Arts

We are already off to an exciting start to the year in our Art Room. The Visual Art students are currently preparing for our annual Art Show that will be held on February 22, 2018 from 5:00pm-7:00pm in the Wildcat Café.

I look forward to working with your children and I am excited to see how they grow, change, and create over the course of the school year. I hope that you will enjoy all the masterpieces that the 2017-2018 school year will bring!

Music

Music students are learning common rhythms and performance techniques on percussion instruments. Students are exploring their cultural influences on the arts and the importance of being aware of genres and the effects it has on one's emotions.

Physical Education

Kindergarten through second grade Physical Education students are currently working on finer motor skills. Third through fifth grade students are working on developing teamwork and collaborative skills.