

**Swift Creek Elementary
PTA Meeting
April 13, 2021 @ 6:30 pm**

This was a general membership meeting.

Attendees:

1. Marie Dexter
2. Lauren Nicholls
3. Colleen Muldoon
4. Caroline Griffith
5. Donald Berrigan
6. Jazzmone Sutton
7. Kristin D'Amelio
8. Lesley Aycock
9. Megan Sedaghat
10. Natasha Tobias
11. Sarah Mailhot
12. ShaRhonda Smith
13. Shawna
14. Deb Killion
15. Sam Allen
16. Sharon Hizer
17. Megan Holler
18. Maggie Howard
19. Juanita Francois
20. Emily McGraw
21. Sarah Wohldmann

1. Call to Order
- Meeting called to order at 6:33pm.
2. Approve March Meeting Minutes
- 1st: ShaRhonda Smith - 2nd: Kristin D'Amelio - Motion passes
3. EOG Presentation
- Purpose: The NC EOG tests are designed to measure student performance on the goals, objectives and grade-level competencies specified in the NC Standard Course of Study. - Reading (Grades 3-8) - Math (Grades 3-8) - Science (Grade 5 & 8)

- Effective Methods of Preparing for an EOG
 - Your student can prepare first by knowing the types of questions on their EOG and by preparing to answer them.
 - Review materials from class.
 - Review the question types of your EOG: Multiple Choice, Gridded Response
- Tips to help you get started:
 - Read the question twice
 - See if you can answer it without looking at the choices
 - Cross out answers that you know are wrong
 - Underline areas in the text or question to help figure out the answer
 - Be precise! Some answer choices are similar
 - Select all of the above if multiple choices sound correct
- Open Ended Math Questions
 - Read the question carefully
 - Use the CUBES strategy
 - Be precise with bubbling
- NC provides many resources to support test takers
 - <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/testing-and-school-accountability/state-tests/end-grade-eog>
 - Be sure to know the dates and times of your students EOG
 - Prepare by supporting your child while they are practicing. Plan ahead to keep it low stress.
 - Talk to your teachers and find out what they are doing to prepare your child
 - Practice Tests: <https://edulastic.com/assessments/nc-eog-practice-test/>
- EOG and Emotions
 - EOGs can be stressful for your student. Here are some tips to alleviate testing anxiety.
 - Leading up to the EOGs:
 - Put the practice down.
 - Communicate with teachers
 - Pay attention to your child's stress cues
 - The Day of the EOGs
 - Get a good night's rest the night before
 - Eat a filling breakfast (or eat one at school)
 - Try to keep your students calm
- Questions:
 - Have the kids started taking EOGs on their chromebooks?
 - Students will take the EOG on their chromebooks.
 - Will they still have gridded-response?
 - They will have gridded-response but will just fill it in on the computer.

- Do we know any exact dates?
 - EOGs will start May 19th and run through the following week.
 - VA students should have gotten a survey. All students need to take the EOG at the school building.
- Are they mandatory?
 - Usually, EOGs are mandatory. This year, students who are virtual are not required to send their child in.
- Are students already preparing for the EOG?
 - Teachers have already started preparing for it. They prepare for it informally throughout the year. Typically they have check-ins but did not happen this year due to COVID. Teachers are doing a combination of online test prep and paper/pencil prep.
- What are the benefits of him taking the test?
 - The EOG gives teachers data on the student and shows which areas they are striving in and the areas they may need extra focus.
 - It's a great way to prep your child for middle school and the additional testing that students see in the upper grades.
- How long does the EOG test take?
 - 3rd and 4th grade have a math and reading test. Students are given 3 hours to take the test.
 - 5th grade has reading, math and science.
 - Teachers in the students grade level will be giving them the tests so they will know the teacher.
- Do students have to stay for the entire time?
 - Typically students have to stay for the initial two hours. Students that need additional time get taken to an overflow room. Students who are finished after that initial window can be picked up.
- How do EOGs relate to iStation?
 - iStation measures the foundational reading skills: comprehension, phonics, etc.
 - EOGs measure your child's knowledge of content for that grade level.
- Please ask Sarah Mailhot if you have any questions related to testing.

4. Officer Nominations

- Nominations for this year:
 - President: Marie Dexter
 - Vice President 1: Deborah Killion
 - Vice President 2: Sarah Wohldmann
 - Treasurer: Dana Boyer
 - Secretary: Lauren Nicholls

- If you know anyone that is interested in any of those positions, please email Sarah with any nominees.
- If you are interested in being an officer and want to know what's involved, you are welcome to come shadow an officer any time.

5. Teacher Appreciation Week

- Week of May 3-7
 - Monday: Handmade card or picture
 - Tuesday: School supply for classroom
 - Wednesday: Sweet treats (maybe your teacher's favorite candy)
 - Thursday: A flower from your garden
 - Friday: Wear your teacher's favorite color
- We have something for the staff mailboxes
- Teachers will be able to order a pizza to pick up from Papa Murphy's
- We have gotten a list of the teacher's favorite things. If you want the list, please contact any of the board members for assistance.
- We will have a cart outside of the school for families to drop off gifts at the school for their teacher.

6. 5th Grade T-shirts

- Erin Galloway has taken the charge to have shirts made for every 5th grade student
- With \$200 from Ruckus Spirit Night and private donations, we were able to fully fund this project
- The t-shirts have been ordered.
- Questions: contact Erin Galloway at EBGalloway@venable.com

7. Yearbook News

- On sale until April 28. After the 28th, you have to pay for shipping.
- If you didn't get your picture taken at the school, you can send Sarah a picture through April 18th.
- Take a picture using these guidelines:
 - White/Light Colored background
 - Plain background
 - Take the picture from 4 feet away
 - From the waist up
- Email photos to: yearbookpics.sces@gmail.com
- We have lots of cougar paws. If you know any other VA students, please encourage them to send in a picture.
- This could be something Mr. Propst could include in his email.

8. Autism Acceptance Week

- Monday 4/12: Dress up as your favorite Pokemon character
- Tuesday 4/13: Wear rainbow and tie-dye
- Wednesday 4/14: Dress up as something you love
- Thursday 4/15: Wear your SCES Spirit Wear
- Friday 4/16: Wear sunglasses, hat, or sensory friendly pjs

9. Upcoming Events

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- April 28: Deadline to order yearbook- May 7: Spirit Night at Flavor Ice Cream!- May: PTA Meeting; Elect officers for next year- June 10: Last day of school |
| 10. Principal's Report |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Big thanks to Caroline and Donald for the wonderful EOG presentation- If your child dresses up on Wednesday, please send pictures to your teacher or Sarah Wohldmann- Thursday when we return to school, please be sure to dress up in your SCES spirit wear- Thanks to PTA for all you do! |
| |

*Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

--Minutes taken by PTA Secretary Lauren Nicholls.