

October 25, 2016

# Swift Creek Current

Swift Creek Elementary School, 5601 Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27606

<http://swiftcreekes.wcpss.net>

919-233-4320

## From the Principal's Desk

Hello Swift Creek Family,

Thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me. I am very excited to be a part of Swift Creek Elementary. From my early observations, I can see that SCES is an outstanding learning community. The classes are serious about learning. The teachers are dedicated to meeting the needs of all students and challenging them to grow. Parents are incredibly supportive and spend much of their own time to make the school a great place. And what amazing students! They are so kind to others, respectful to adults, and eager to learn every day.

As for me, I grew up in Morganton, NC, on the western side of the state. The Blue Ridge Mountains always have a special place in my heart. I earned a BA in English and an MEd in Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. I taught 4th and 5th grades in High Point and Kernersville before moving to the Columbus, Ohio area. In Ohio, I taught 3rd and 4th grades for a few years while earning an MA in Administration from The Ohio State University. I enjoyed being a principal of a great school in Reynoldsburg, Ohio for nine years. Most recently, I served Whitehall Schools in Ohio as the Executive Director of Elementary Education.

My wife and I live in Carrboro now, and we love being back home in the Tarheel state! We are both very involved in church work and get our greatest satisfaction in serving others. Also, we love traveling. So far, I've been to China, Singapore, Norway, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, and the Dominican. There are so many other places to explore, cultures to learn from, and foods to eat! We especially love the rich history, geography, and traditions of this beautiful state.

One of the first elements of Wake County Schools that I noticed upon arriving here is the district goal that by 2020, WCPSS will annually graduate at least 95% of its students ready for productive citizenship as well as higher education or a career. We want the students of SCES to meet and exceed that goal. Looking at our current achievement data, we have some work to do. But every component necessary to achieve this goal is already present in this school. I have no doubt that, together, we will do great things. Thank you again for your welcome and support. I look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

Sincerely, Darrell Propst

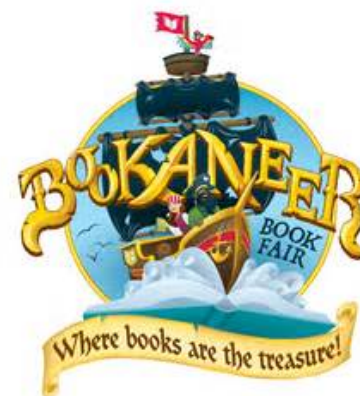


TONIGHT!!!

**Argh, Mateys! Join us  
for Family Night at the  
Book Fair.**

- 5:30pm-6:30pm. Free spaghetti dinner in the cafeteria.
- 5:30-7:00: Pirate games in 8 classrooms!
- 5:30-7:30 – Book Fair is open in the media center

You and your kids are welcome to wear Halloween costumes or dress in pirate attire. No scary costumes or weapons are allowed.



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## PTA Spotlight: The Book Fair

Did you know that Swift Creek has two book fairs each year? One in the Fall and one in the Spring. The PTA works with Ms. Hartley, the media center specialist, to organize these fairs and the fun Family Nights! Our committee chairs this year, Sela Vaughn and Aimee Langerhans, have been working so hard to bring some new ideas and excitement to our Family Night. We hope you can join us. All proceeds from the fair go directly back to Swift Creek!

The Fall Book fair is open all week! Here is the schedule:

- Monday- Thursday 8:45-4:15
- Friday- 8:45- noon

We are looking for volunteers to help throughout the week. If you can help, sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/sces-bookaneers>.

Can't get to the book fair this year? Still want to shop? You can continue to shop the book fair online until November 2nd. The books will be delivered to the school with no charge for shipping.

Visit <http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/findafair> for more details.

The October 21st Early Release Luncheon was organized by the Hospitality Committee and Book Fair Committee. The luncheon doubled as a preview day for the teachers at the Book Fair. Jason's Deli provided the boxed lunches at a discounted rate. Thank you, Jason's Deli!



## Fun Run Update – We Are Almost to \$17,000!

We are SO close to our \$17,000 goal. We have extended the deadline to Friday, October 28. If we reach our goal by Oct 28, the principal and assistant principal will get SLIMED!!! Please turn in your donations as soon as possible or donate online at <http://cougar-fun-run.cheddarup.com>.

We would like to recognize these families, individuals, and businesses who donated \$100 or more. Thank you so much to these sponsors.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at this year's Fun Run on October 13! We had a great time with the Olympics theme. A special thank you to Kim Partin, the Fun Run committee chair, for organizing the event and for adding those special touches to the day (for example, creating a cauldron for Swifty to light and finding gold medals for the students who ran).

Gold (\$200+)	The Bradford Family Carolina Cabinet Specialists The Dexter Family Parker & Virginia Ellison The Ford Family The Galloway Family The Veum Family 6 Anonymous Donors
Silver (\$150)	Beth Calloway Beth & Andy Robinson 1 Anonymous Donor
Bronze (\$100)	John Brandenburg Tim & Debbie Chadwick Aimee Langerhans Chris and Jennifer Miller Eric & Danielle Mtika Raleigh Wealth Solutions 15 Anonymous Donors

## You Can Now Pay for School Field Trips Online

You can now pay for school field trips online at <http://tinyurl.com/sces-field-trips>. Or on the school website (<http://www.wcps.net/swiftcreekes>), select Parents > Field Trip Payments.

## Help Build a Collaborative Space for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ms. Hizer, our IRT/Intervention teacher, wants to create a Collaborative Work Space for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders in room 205. She is requesting these items:

- Stability Balls from 5 Below
- Vinyl Bean Bag Chairs

If you can help, please bring these items to the office. Make sure you label them "Ms. Hizer – Collaborative Work Space."

## Save the Date! The Science Fair is January 12, 2017!

Attention budding scientists! Please save the date as the Swift Creek Elementary Science Fair will be held on Thursday, January 12th, 2017. Participation is optional for anyone in grades 3-5 and students may enter demonstrations or experimental projects. Questions? Need more information? Contact Jen Miller at [jcmille4@gmail.com](mailto:jcmille4@gmail.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities!

There are many ways that you can get involved at Swift Creek. You can help a child learn to read, donate items for teacher appreciation, or help with photocopying.

All of the current volunteer opportunities are listed on the Volunteer page of the PTA website. Check them out today at

<http://swiftcreekeswcpssnetptahtml.weebly.com/current-opportunities.html>.



## Your October Calendar

- **October 24 - 28:** Fall Book Fair in the media center
- **TONIGHT!** 5:30-7:30pm: Family Night at the Book Fair! A free spaghetti dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30.
- **October 28:**
  - **Final deadline for Fun Run donations!** Please help us reach our \$17,000 goal so we can slime our principal and assistant principal!
  - **3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders: Deadline for your Reflections entries.** Turn your work in to your teacher. For questions about the program, contact Julie Nolan at jmpnolan@gmail.com.
  - **Box Top collection date!** Please turn in your Box Tops and Coke bottle tops. The submission deadline for Box Tops this fall is Nov 1. You can double the amount you earn for Swift Creek by using the Box Tops app. See <http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp>.
- **October 31:** Regular school day. This is a make-up day from the day school was closed after Hurricane Matthew.

## Your November Calendar

- **November 3:**
  - 5:15-6:16pm Bullying Presentation by Mrs. Chadwick and Mrs. Lewis in media center
  - 6:30pm PTA meeting in the media center
- **November 7:** Capital Transit performance for all students. This event is sponsored by the United Arts Council and the Swift Creek PTA.
- **November 8:** Election Day! All Wake County schools are on a 2-hour delay. Swift Creek will start at 11:15am.
- **November 11:** Veteran's Day! No School!
- **November 17 5-8pm:** McTeacher's night at the McDonald's off Walnut Street. Help us raise money for our school during this annual event!
- **November 23:** Teacher Work Day
- **November 24-27:** Thanksgiving holiday

## Your December Calendar

- **December 2 1:15pm:** Early Release. School dismisses at 1:15pm.
- **December 13 6:30pm:** PTA meeting in the media center
- **December 22:** Teacher Work Day
- **December 23 – Jan 2:** Winter Holiday



**On Thursday, October 27 at 4:15pm, join us for a Best Wishes Farewell party for Mrs. Caroline Miller.**

We will gather in one of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms at Swift Creek (follow the signs)

Please come thank Mrs. Miller for everything that she has done for Swift Creek and wish her well as she starts her new adventure as Principal of Middle Creek Elementary!

**On Thursday, Nov 3, join us for two events:**

**From 5:15-6:16pm,** join the Student Services Team in the media center for "Stand Up, Speak Out: An Informational Workshop on Bullying for Parents"

Discussion will include:

- What is bullying?
- How is it different from just being mean?
- What are the types of bullying a child may experience?
- What are the psychological and emotional effects of bullying?
- What can YOU do, as parents to prevent and intervene?

**From 6:30-7:30,** join us for our November PTA meeting. The first half hour will be a drop-in event to Thank Mrs. Hargrove for being interim principal at Swift Creek. Refreshments will be provided.