

School Council News



KEEPING YOU INFORMED...
TOPICS DISCUSSED AT THE MAY 3, 2017 MEETING

Council Members:

Kim Montalbano
Principal

Videssa Ormsby
Parent/Chairperson

Carla Page
Teacher/Secretary

David Ratner - Parent

Josie Wolfe
Parent

Robert Tidwell
Parent

Paul Hutto - Parent

Lynne Montgomery
Teacher



The dates for the 2017-18 School Council meetings are to be determined. Visitors are welcome to attend all School Council meetings. This includes teachers, parents, and community members.

The WES Foundation

Mr. Robert Tidwell has created a Woodstock Elementary School Foundation to provide funding for our school. The main focus of the 501(c)3 non-profit foundation board will be fundraising.

The board will meet quarterly and consist of one school administrator, one teacher representative, to be elected by the WES faculty, and three to five Woodstock business members. The quarterly board meetings will begin next school year and are tentatively planned to be evening meetings.

Once the board is established, members will work to build relationships with local businesses who might be willing to support our school and community through the WES Foundation.

Title 1 Initiatives—Ana Vescio

- ◆ Positive phone calls home - parents are very excited to hear great things about their children and students are encouraged.
- ◆ All Title I requirements have been completed for this school year.
- ◆ Next year, Ana Vescio will transition from the position of Parent Facilitator into her new role as Front Office Clerk.

Garden Update

The proposed garden plan has been approved by the Cherokee County School District. Today, Joseph Waters, CCSD Facilities Management, Chris Williams, Landscape of the South representative and Mark Hutcheson of Hutcheson Landscape all joined our meeting to provide an update on the proposed irrigation system, fencing and plants for the WES garden.

Chris Williams provided a proposal for the garden irrigation system. After much discussion, the School Council members



requested a more detailed proposal to better explain the cost of each part of the proposed irrigation system.

WES is fortunate to have an anonymous donor willing to provide funds towards the cost of the irrigation system. Mr. Williams will work to draft a proposal more in line with our available budget of \$7000. Once an updated proposal is provided, the CCSD will need to approve the irrigation system before we are able to move forward with installation.

Mr. Hutcheson is available in July to install the plants we have requested for the garden. He will be able to plant once the irrigation system and fencing have been installed. He is willing to provide a 6 month warranty on plants and will teach a WES employee proper watering for the plants that are installed.

If all goes well, installation of the fencing and irrigation system will begin in mid-June, 2017.

New Playground Equipment

Ms. Montalbano has requested approval by the CCSD for shades over the picnic tables in the courtyard as well as new playground equipment. Once approved, construction of the new playground in the courtyard will begin.





CCSD & WES UPDATES

Allotments for 2017-18 School Year

- * Kindergarten = 9 teachers (22 student max)
- * 1st grade = 10 teachers (23 student max)
- * 2nd grade = 9 teachers (23 student max)
- * 3rd grade = 8 teachers (23 student max)
- * 4th grade = 7 teachers (32 student max)
- * 5th grade = 7 teachers (32 student max)

Computer Lab 903

- * Will be available for teacher sign up next year

Enrollment Updates

- * 1166 students as of 5/3/17
- * Enrollment is stable
- * 1200+ students projected for 2017-18



CCSD launches Canvas system

The Cherokee County School District this summer will launch Canvas: an online learning management system for students, parents and teachers.

The Canvas system was piloted successfully this school year in select classes to replace CCSD's Aspen student and parent portals. Schools are contacting parents now to begin the simple account set-up process for a seamless districtwide transition to Canvas for the 2017-18 school year.

Canvas offers teachers and students greater opportunities for teaching and learning, and parents can access more information about their child's courses, assignments, calendars and academic progress.

Parents of students in kindergarten through fifth grade will continue to receive their child's home-room teacher name at the school's walk-through/open house event. Students in Grades 6-12 will receive schedules via an email sent to their CCSD Office 365 account; the schedules subsequently also will be emailed to parents.

Parents are encouraged to learn more about Canvas by setting up an account. To set up an account, which takes only a couple of minutes, parents need the student ID (5 or 6 digits) and GTID (10 characters - a combination of letters and digits) for each of their children, who all can be added to one Canvas parent account. These IDs are in the Aspen system or can be obtained from the school's front office. **The Aspen system will be offline for public use as of June 30, 2017, so parents are encouraged to look up these IDs and any other data they want to save before then.**

Plans are underway to provide parents with sign-up assistance and information at school open houses and curriculum nights.



Public Notice:

If you would like to review any of the documents shared at the School Council meeting, please contact Carla Page by email at carla.page@cherokee.k12.ga.us or by phone (770) 704-1320.