



SOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Stephen P. Evans, Principal

Date: **October 20, 2020**

Dear South Elementary School Parent/Guardian:

I hope the first quarter has been filled with successful remote learning experiences for you and your student(s). As we move into the Second Nine Weeks, I would like to share information with you regarding some of the highlights of the First Nine Weeks. We are excited our students and families may access the internet through WiFi Rangers at Lively Stones Baptist (in Pelham), Kerr's Chapel Baptist (on Kerr's Chapel Road), Sweet Gum's Grove Baptist (on NC Hwy 119), and Shiloh Baptist Church (in Milton). We have also provided hotspots to families who need this resource to connect to the internet. Additionally, we have created a parent and student online resource center which can be accessed at <https://CaswellParentandStudentResources>. At South, we offer multiple instructional opportunities for students including small group instruction, remediation, and other enrichment activities. We encourage all families to stay connected with information for South families through our Weekly Alert Now principal messages the South Webpage at <https://www.caswell.k12.nc.us/Page/11> and the South Elementary Facebook page.

South Elementary School staff opened the new year with productive goals for the 2020-2021 school year. *Goal 1: The school will implement a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers. Goal 2: All teachers will be attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for support and interventions when necessary. Goal 3: The school will establish a team structure among teachers with specific duties and time for instructional planning. Goal 4: Upon implementation of a Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) system and a focus on effective classroom management techniques and supports, each teacher will be able to provide opportunities for student collaboration and differentiated instruction (growth to be indicated by walk-through data). This will additionally be measured by (EVAAS) reports at the end of the 2017-2018 school year designated by an overall growth index of at least +0.5 or greater in each subject for each teacher. Increased communication, parent partnerships, student showcases, and new interactive parent involvement activities will result in increased parental involvement and student achievement (7% EOG growth above).*

Some of South's school improvement plan have embedded strategies to improve student achievement, which include:

- School-wide implementation of Eureka Math curriculum with appropriate support for teachers, students, and parents
- Continued Instructional Monitoring (principal and instructional coach) with deliberate and target feedback to teachers about instructional practices and ways to improve instruction
- Frequent instructional observations by the principal and instructional coach with detailed and targeted, constructive feedback

- ❑ Regularly scheduled meetings with the instructional coach and principal to analyze assessment data and to plan appropriate standards-based instruction
- ❑ Tiered interventions, remediation, small group instruction and tutoring
- ❑ Continued development and implementation of Multi-tiered Support System (MTSS) Program
- ❑ Processes and procedures will be refined to ensure students receive appropriate interventions based on their needs
- ❑ Continued development and implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Strategies (PBIS)
- ❑ Development of a comprehensive school counseling program through collaboration with the school counselor for small group and individual counseling sessions

As stated in ESSA Section 1111(d)(2), North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. South has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement Additional Targeted Support (TSI-AT) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. TSI-AT schools in North Carolina are those that have a subgroup that is under-performing. The intent of this opportunity is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. *Parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:*

- *Make sure both you and your student are aware of academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).*
- *Call if you have questions or concerns about your student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your student.*
- *Make sure your student is prepared and attends school each day.*
- *Monitor your student's homework, monitor the progress your student is making, and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).*
- *Keep track of our website and social media sites.*
- *Join a parent support/volunteer team*

This may sound like a lot; however, preparing our students to be successful is not always easy and is a group effort. Here are some resources available to help:

- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>
- Remote Learning parent and student resources: <https://CaswellParentandStudentResources>

On behalf of the South Elementary learning community, I would like to express my continued appreciation for your support of our school and programs. Now, more than ever, it is taking a community to educate our children. As always, if you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact me steve.evans@caswell.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,



Stephen P. Evans MSA, NBCT
Principal