



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

June 2017 Updates Newsletter

www.fwes.wcpss.net will be updated throughout the summer for 2017-18

All updates should be completed by August 1st.

From Mrs. Pierce...

The end of the school year is always busy and hectic for students, teachers and parents; but it is also a great time to reflect on the growth and learning we have all shared together this year. We have watched our students gain so much knowledge and skill- no matter the grade level. They have also learned to use their new skills to continue to be a learner. As adults in our school community, each year we learn more

about the power of collaboration and support as our school community is only strengthened by these partnerships. We have also learned lessons from our students and seen the world through their eyes- sometimes opening ours to a new view. As I watch many students I've known since they were kindergartners prepare for middle school, I am so proud

of the learners they have become and of the commitment of our school to our students' growth. I hope your summer is filled with opportunities to learn and grow- along with family, friends and fun!

See you soon!

Respectfully,
Winston Pierce

Go for the Gold!

Give and Earn Respect
Own your Actions
Lead by Example
Demonstrate Cooperation



by the school nurse.

- **Lost and Found:** All items left in the lost and found after June 9th will be donated. Please check if you are missing something!

June Events:

- **June 5** 3rd Grade ELA Re-Test for select students; 4:30 Retirement Celebration for Mr. Sanders and Mr. Scott in Inquiry Center
- **June 6** 5th Grade Talent Show- K-2 9:30; 3-5 10:30 in Cafeteria- 30 minute lunch delay
- **June 7** Go for the Gold/Field Day Event- 4th/5th 9:30-11:00; K/1st 11:30-1:00; 2nd/3rd 2:00-3:30.- no visitors for lunch- 3rd Retest Scores and Summer Reading Camp Invitations home
- **June 8** Awards Day K-1 9:30; 2-4 10:30- 30 minute lunch delay; 4th/5th Grade EOG Scores home
- **June 9** Last Day of School; 5th Grade Celebration 10:00am; 5th Grade Picnic in Courtyard 11:30am-12:30pm; Report Cards Go Home with all students after 11:30pm; 45 minute lunch delay

Have a great summer!

Don't forget to Read Every Day for our [Summer Reading Challenge!](#)

FWES Summer Office Hours: 8:30-11:45am and 1:00-4:00pm Daily

(Occasionally in the summer maintenance needs and staff vacation days may impact the office schedule. Please call or check the website for any changes in the office schedule before visiting the school.)

Preparing for Starting 2017-18:

- Supply lists are include with your child's 4th quarter report card and posted on the website. Continue to check website throughout

June Updates, 2017

We're going to miss you...

Each year there are a variety of professional and family circumstances that impact our staff and their ability to return to FWES for the next school year. We are so thankful for their hard work and commitment to our students and wish them all the best!

- Scott Mathyk
- Liz Hains
- Stella Godin
- Kate Pinder
- Cleo White
- Jessica Coiner
- Adam Carter
- Anna Flood
- Sarah Green
- Lisa Hitesman
- Robin Liang
- Tasha Brown
- Lindsey Johnson
- Kim Hannis
- Lethean Sanders
- Bruce Scott

A Walk in the Woods ...

- **Teacher Characteristics for 2017-18:** If you are interested in providing information about the teacher characteristics that will best support your child in the next grade level, you may send those to Jennifer Thakur (jthakur@wcpss.net) and/or Winston Pierce (awpierce@wcpss.net) by **Friday, June 9th**. Teachers should not be identified by name, as many of our teachers will be teaching different grade levels next year, but the characteristics that support your child best in a learning environment will allow us to make the best classroom placement decision next year.
- **EOG Scores:** Please review the following information about the proposed return and sharing of EOG Scores for 2017:
 - 3rd Graders got scores on Thursday, June 1st because those who did not pass the ELA portion retested today
 - 4th and 5th Graders should get scores on Thursday, June 8th
 - Students who are not completed with testing (all test sections : ELA, Math and Science- if 5th grader) by June 6, 2017 will not receive scores until June 9, 2017 or later.
 - If there are any technological glitches there could be a delay in our ability to report scores but we will get them to families as soon as possible
 - More detailed parent reports will be sent to families either in the summer or at the start of the 17-18 school year.
- **Yearbooks:** Extra yearbooks are available in the front office for \$25 until they run out. Checks should be made payable to FWES PTA.
- **Medication Pick Up:** All medication kept at school must be picked up by a parent on the last day of school, June 9th- it may not be sent home with students. Medication not picked up by June 24th will be disposed of

the summer for updates and information as it will be added through August

- July 1- Volunteer Registration/Renewal for the 17-18 school year opens
- July 24- Deadline request a change from the post card mailed in May for bus transportation for the 17-18 school year- to ke a change from the post card go here: [Bus Rider Update](#) before July 24th.
- August 14- Before/After School Registration sign up will begin (to avoid lines and waiting)- more details will be shared by August 1st. (updated forms will be posted by August 1st- do not use 16-17 forms)
- August 24 Class Lists Posted at 4:30pm
- August 25 8:30-11:00am Open House for 1st- 5th Graders- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Sessions at 8:45am and 10:15am in the Gym
- August 28 First Day of School for 1st-5th Grades
- August 28-31- Kindergarten Staggered Entry
 - 28- Last Names A-F
 - 29- Last Names G-L
 - 30- Last Names M-R
 - 31- Last Names S-Z
- September 1st 1:30-2:30pm Kindergarten Open House to Meet Teacher
- September 5th- First day for ALL Kindergarteners
- September 29- Early Release at 1:15pm- All students dismissed at 1:15pm





Information for 17-18...

Classroom changes and adjustments for 17-18:

The Facts for FWES:

- K-3 class size average for FWES (and all NC schools) must remain below 20 students per classroom for the first 2 months (40 school days) of the school year. After 2 months no one classroom K-3 may be larger than 23 students.
 - K-3 at FWES will have 6-8 teachers per grade level- depending on enrollment #s as we get closer to the start of the school year
- All teaching positions, other than State required Art, Music and PE must be used to maintain these lower class sizes. FWES will no longer have Technology or Science as a special in the 17-18 school year. These two positions are not required by the state and must be used to facilitate the mandated lower class size average.
- We will need to move some classroom locations in the summer months to prepare for the need to possibly add classrooms to K-3 grade levels.
- There are no class size limits for 4th-12th grade classrooms in NC. To maintain the staffing possibly needed in K-3, 4th and 5th grade classes may have more students per classroom than in previous years.
- It is highly possible (and most likely) that there may be additional teachers and classrooms added after the start of the school year due to enrollment fluctuations in order to maintain compliance with the K-3 law and if so, changes in classroom placements for students may need to occur. While changes are not ideal- the support of FWES staff and our FWES families make those changes successful for students.
- Formulas for Instructional Assistants will not change, so while there will be more K-3 classrooms, there will be no more Instructional Assistants to serve our entire school community.

The Good News for FWES:

- Funding for the IB/PYP program is not impacted so we will maintain our Foreign Language program- Spanish and Mandarin. Mandarin will also be expanded to include regular culture and basic language lessons for K-2 classrooms.
- Students will still have 5 Specials each week (most elementary schools are down to only Art, Music and PE)- and we are working on creative options for those grade levels with more than 5 teachers to have more than 5 specials to allow for common planning time for the team- stay tuned! We are very optimistic about some creative options!
- Instructional Assistants will continue to work to support students in an instructional capacity to support the learning needs of all students K-5.
- FWES staff are awesome, flexible and problem solvers and they are already considering the possible changes and how to make it work best for students! We are so lucky to have them at FWES!