



Welcome to our website! We hope that you will enjoy learning about our school community. Yates Mill Elementary School follows a traditional calendar and is an enriching school community where the focus of the staff and administration is on setting high standards for student achievement. The staff collaborates to build safe and supportive relationships with the students, classrooms are interactive with technology and hands-on activities, and the students and teachers are actively involved in the learning process. The assistant principal and I are actively involved in all aspects of the school community. We encourage parent involvement to occur on a daily basis.

Our certified staff collaborates weekly in Professional Learning Teams to design instruction and assessments covering the curriculum goals as outlined in the Common Core Essential Standards. Grade level teachers along with the AIG teacher, Intervention teachers, and Instructional Coaches (both math and reading) are constantly assessing students' needs to better serve each child through the use of flexible grouping in math and reading called Team Time. This time is a part of our master schedule. Students participate in grade level Team Time 5 days a week for 30 minutes a day where they work in small groups based on their specific needs. These opportunities for all students allow them to take part in uninterrupted core instruction daily as well as grow as learners in their specific, identified areas.

Our PTA is very supportive in many ways. We encourage all of our families to get involved and volunteer. Through the PTA's Parent Advocacy Committee, parent and community volunteers provide tutoring, serve as media volunteers, support teachers in their classrooms and organize special activities throughout the school year. Parents also support our staff and lend a helping hand by completing tasks at home or after school. Be sure to click on the parent tab and visit the PTA website.

Learning extends outside of the classroom walls as our school was originally opened with an environmental focus. Many years ago, our school took part in offering environmental education through regular "zone days". Grade levels are still assigned a zone, which they can access at anytime to extend their curriculum, however our teachers and students now take care of their zones annually during the week of Earth Day. The school having been built on the Swift Creek watershed provides unique, hands-on environmental instruction right on the school campus. We encourage all of our stakeholders to help us beautify our campus during our Earth Day celebrations.

I am proud of all of The Yates Mill Frogs (students and staff) who are Leaping into Excellence each and every day!

Barry Richburg, Principal