



From Principal Kelley:

I would like to update our parents and families on the Community Partnership School initiative that is under way here at South Woods Elementary. This process has been in the works for more than a year and we have recently appointed a Community School Director, Mr. Chris Stone. Mr. Stone comes to the South Woods team by way of the St. Johns County School District's Student Services department. He has held various positions with local nonprofits and boards, all with a focus on serving families and students. Mr. Stone is a resident of the Elkton community where he lives with his wife Kendra who is a teacher at Gamble Rogers Middle School and two year old daughter Adeline.

What is a Community Partnership School & Why South Woods Elementary?

We are fortunate enough to have four core partners (St. Johns County Schools, Flagler Hospital, St. Johns River State College & Children's Home Society) that have agreed to step in and address the needs of the communities that South Woods Elementary serves. South Woods Elementary was selected due to having one of the highest percentage of students enrolled in the free and reduced meals program throughout the St. Johns County School District. Families and students that attend South Woods Elementary have unique challenges with access to social service programs and resources that are typically available in other communities. The households that are zoned for South Woods Elementary are among one of the most diverse student groups due to the region that the school serves. Students from rural and farm communities all the way to the coastal regions of St. Johns County make up the student population. The long term vision for South Woods Community Partnership School would be to offer essential services to students, families and community members in the areas of medical, dental, mental health as well as many others. The services will be located on campus at South Woods in order to help remove many of the barriers that our students and families experience. We are currently undertaking the needs assessment and strategic planning process by collecting data from community members in the form of surveys and focus groups. This will let our community provide input into what services they feel will make the most impact on not only their child's education, but for the entire household and community. If you would like to participate by completing a survey or taking part in a focus group please feel free to reach out to Mr. Stone directly through his contact information provided below.

Chris Stone
Community School Director
South Woods Elementary, A Community Partnership School
Office: 904.547.4208
Cell: 904.415.1803

christopher.stone@chsfl.org

We are currently in year one of this process and will be adding services and programming in the coming 2017 & 2018 school year. Typically Community Partnership Schools take five years to reach full development with over ten percent of the student population be served on a daily basis through services that are offered. Please look for updates about our Community Partnership School in coming newsletters and always feel free to contact Mr. Stone at any time.

Upcoming Events

April 4th

SAC meeting 4:30pm

April 10th

PTO Involved Parent Meeting 5:30pm

April 10th

Monthly PTO Meeting 6pm

April 10th & 11th

FSA testing 3rd grade math

April 11th

ESE Parent Advisory Committee
6:00pm-7:30pm
(see announcement below)

April 11th

Parent input forms sent home

April 12th & 13th

FSA testing 4th grade ELA

April 14th

No School

April 17th

Parent input forms due back

April 17th & 18th

FSA testing 4th grade math

April 20th & 21st

FSA testing 5th grade ELA

April 24th & 25th

FSA testing 5th grade math

FSA Testing

Computer based FSA testing begins next week starting with 3rd grade math. Dates for grades 4 and 5 are listed in the Upcoming Events section. Testing will begin at 9am and last approximately 1 ½ hrs. To ensure your child is ready to do their best please:

- Make sure your child is well rested
 - Eat a good breakfast
- Encourage your child to do his or her best
 - Arrive to school **on time**

Students who are absent will take a make-up test later in the week but we know that students perform better when they are testing in their classroom with their classmates and teacher.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS PROCTORS

We need proctors to assist teachers with the FSA and DE assessments.

Here is general information:

- Proctors must be approved volunteers (School Access form completed and cleared)
 - Proctors will receive training before testing begins
- Proctors may not proctor for their child or any relative (niece, nephew, grandchild, etc.)
 - Testing will generally take place in the mornings

If you think you'd like to help, please contact Cindy Willey at 904-547-8596 or email cindy.willey@stjohns.k12.fl.us. She can give you specific dates and times that we need you. Thank you for your consideration and assistance!

ESE PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

St Johns County Schools (SJCS), Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources Services (FDLRS), and Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) offer

Topic: OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES

Date/Time: 4/11/17 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Pedro Menendez High School 600 FL-206, St. Augustine, FL 32086

Goal: To ensure parents of students with Autism have knowledge of available resources.

PTO News

Contact PTO at: southwoodspto@gmail.com and like our Facebook page “South Woods Elementary PTO” to stay up to date with Events and Info for our school!

Upcoming PTO Events

ATTENTION PARENTS!!!

Involved Parent Meeting Monday, April 10, 2017 at 5:30pm

We are in search of parents that would like to be more involved with the PTO events for the 2017-2018 school year. On April 10th at 5:30pm we are having a **quick** involved parent meeting. We will be discussing what our needs are for the upcoming year and how you can help lend a hand at PTO events. This meeting will be held before our regularly scheduled monthly PTO meeting that is at 6pm. We will have snacks and will go over what we hope to put together for the 2017-2018 school year. We really hope that we can get some of our amazing parents and volunteers to get more plugged into the PTO events at South Woods!

Many Thanks!

South Woods PTO would like to send out a big thank you to the business sponsors that have partnered up with us for the current school year!

Barnes Farms- Golden Eagle Sponsor
Tater Farms- Golden Eagle Sponsor
Seaside Children's Dentistry- Silver Eagle Sponsor

We appreciate everything from all of sponsors! It's because of you that we are able to help our school do great things!

A special thanks to Subway for teaming up with PTO by putting a coupon for a free cookie on the back of the PTO membership cards. The coupon can be used with each visit and is good for the entire current school year! PTO membership is \$5 and helps us put on events and help teachers make purchased for great things for our students! **If you would like to support PTO with your \$5 donation and receive a membership card, please contact your child's teacher or go to the school website to access the PTO Membership application.**

Important Reminders

Extended Day

There is still room in our Extended Day Program. Pick up an application in the Front Office. We have availability in the morning from 6:30am to 8:00am for \$10.00 a week and in the afternoon from 2:45pm to 6:00pm for \$52.50 a week. There are part-time options and a \$25 registration fee.

Student Planners

Please sign your student's planner each night.

Visiting South Woods

In order to be in our school while students are present you must have a completed School Access form on file. You may use this link to fill out the School Access form: <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply>

Attendance

Please make every effort to have your student to school on time every day. This is one way to support your child's success at school.

Tardy Students

We are continuing to experience a large number of tardy (late) students on a regular basis. Please make every effort to have your student to school on time as instruction begins at 8:30am. Any missed instructional time (no matter how small) can have a negative effect on student achievement.

Transportation Changes

Transportation changes must be received in the front office by 2:15pm (1:15pm on Wednesday). This will ensure a safe and timely dismissal for all students. Thank you for your cooperation!