

September 6, 2016

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Coming Up

Tue, Sep 6	K-2 Open House & General PTA Meeting, 6:30 PM
Wed, Sep 7	PTA Meeting, 9:30 AM Everyone welcome!
Thu, Sep 8	3-5 Open House & General PTA Meeting, 6:30 PM
Fri, Sep 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Parent Pack Deadline •Spirit Wear Ordering Deadline •Metro School Battery Drive Ends
Fri, Sep 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Go/Play/Save Ends •New Parent Coffee, 9:30 AM •Spirit Night, 6:30 PM, Promenade on Providence

Mon, Sep 19 School Store Opens
Next Rocket Review on Tue, Sep 20

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A Message from Our Principal

Dear Parents,



With the first week behind us and our grade-level curriculum meetings scheduled this week, I'd like to go over a few items so we can all continue our collaborative good work with these precious children you have sent us this year.

K-2 and 3-5 Curriculum Meetings

As we just mentioned this week's two curriculum meetings, let's begin with this topic, which is one of our **"can't miss" beginning of the school year events for parents.**

K-2 curriculum meetings. Tuesday, September 6, 6:30 PM. The meeting **begins at 6:30 in the multipurpose room**, where we will have a 10-minute PTA meeting. The curriculum meetings in the classrooms will not begin until the PTA meeting is over.

Curriculum meetings are **always designed for parents only.** Please plan child care accordingly. These important conversations between teacher and parents are not for student "ears," and it is not a setting appropriate for preschoolers or babies either. At its longest, the meeting should be over by 8 PM. Some families choose to send one parent to the K-2 meeting and the other parent to the 3-5 meeting. Please bring a notebook, a pen, and

your family's calendar to this meeting.

3-5 Curriculum Meeting. Thursday, September 8, 6:30 PM. **Ditto** to everything written above.

School Test Scores

I'm sure by this time that you have seen our school test scores, as this news always sells newspapers, increases television viewer ratings, and is the darling topic of social media. But let me share with you how our faculty views school rankings based upon one data point. We don't find them to be of much value because the skills, competencies, attitudes and scholarship that are our "highest" grades and our finest accomplishments are in those areas that are not measured. **We value critical thinking, articulate speech, sophisticated writing, service learning, community activism, applied research skills and a knowledge of and participation in the fine arts.** These areas determine our students' quality of life and it is in these areas that we show who we are and what we are all about. A single test score is a "snapshot," nothing more, nothing less. So when you hear all this chatter about school grades and school rankings, remember one of our favorite Albert Einstein quotes here at PSE...

"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts."

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The Language of Civility

At PSE, our students are taught to use the “language of civility” every day in their classrooms, in the common areas, on the playground, and on the buses. Some folks may call the language “old fashioned” or “antiquated” but we call it just plain old good manners which set the stage for respectful interactions and for civil dialogue, which seem to be in short supply these days. You may rest assured, however, that our civil environment is alive and well as you hear the following phrases used each day throughout the school... **“Yes, ma’am; No, ma’am; Yes, sir; No, sir; Please; Thank you; Excuse me; May I?”** And strange as it may seem, when the conversation is polite and civil, **the behaviors fall right into line.**

High Expectations for All

A few phrases that are not a part of the PSE dialect are the following... “Boys will be boys.” “The children were just horse playing.” “They don’t need homework in the

evening.” “ ____ doesn’t want to do anything hard.” “ _____ doesn’t want to work with or play with ____.” After all our years of work with the children in this community, we have learned two things.

Thing #1: Children will live up to or down to the expectations adults hold for them. **Thing #2:** A can-do attitude with lots of perseverance will trump a high IQ each and every time.

Our children, your children, will be the scholars of today and the leaders of tomorrow if we set the stage for their success. Providing opportunities to contribute to the collective good, setting high standards of behavior and supporting their attempts at high academic achievement will create students who can open their own doors of opportunity and who create their own reality in a world very different than the one we know. We here at PSE look forward to sharing this exciting adventure with you and know that the sky is the limit for our joint success when we work together as partners.

-Diane Adams, Principal

Volunteer Corner

Calling all PSE DADS!!!

Did you know that we have a great need for dads to help out at school on a regular basis? Yes, there are opportunities like counting laps at the Challenge Runs and lifting the heavy boxes of food donations around the holidays, but we need you even more often than that, too!

- **Dad Corps** - Several of our dads serve on a regular basis on the Dad Corps and have become the coolest dads in town. :) This select group of men not only help make sure our kiddos are safe each morning in getting to class, but they also give those extra high fives and smiles to start the day off right. From 7:30 AM to 8 AM. Contact Jason Gudzunus at jasongudzunus@yahoo.com.
- **Carnival** - Come help set up or work a station at our annual Carnival on Saturday, May 6. Contact Nicole Vega at nicolemvega@yahoo.com, Casey Beck at kcrbeck@gmail.com, or Amy Donovan at adonovan@keenan.com.
- **Book Swap** - Assist us in setting up or manning our first ever Book Swap on Sunday, June 4. Contact Jess Finn at jessfinn@gmail.com or Susan Reikowski at susanreikowski@yahoo.com
- **Yearbook** - Take and edit pictures at a PSE event. Contact Julia Heinzerling at juliaheinzerling@gmail.com or Karin Simoneau at karinsimoneau@gmail.com
- **Sponsorship** - Have ties to businesses in the community? We would love to have you reach out to them about becoming one of our PSE P.A.L.S. Contact Jen Wouters at thewoutersfamily@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK!

PTA Board Meeting

Wednesday, Sept 7
9:30 AM, PSE cafeteria

We would love to see
you there!!!

Don't Forget!

Parent Packs can be
completed at
Pay4SchoolStuff.com
until Sept. 9.



It's a super
convenient way to
pay for publications,
sign up for our
Listserv and much
more.



PSE Spirit Night!

PSE families, mark your calendars for Friday, September 16 at 6:30 PM for our Spirit Night!

Join us at the Promenade on Providence shopping center's center court for a fun night with family and friends. Out on the green, there will be activities and games with some GREAT prizes and proceeds benefiting PSE. American Burger Company will be outside grilling up dinner and also donating a portion of their proceeds to PSE. You can bring your own after-dinner snacks or purchase water, soda, candy and popcorn on site.

And...bring your lawn chairs because when dusk arrives (at approximately 7:30 PM) the family friendly movie "Inside Out" will begin! **This is going to be a fun night!**

Students and families, be sure to wear your spirit wear or your PSE colors (green and yellow)!

Thank you to Promenade at Providence for hosting Spirit Night and benefiting Providence Spring Elementary!

For New PSE Families

Are you new to PSE? Feeling a little overwhelmed? Parent Ambassadors are here to help!

A Parent Ambassador is your "go to" contact for your entire first year at PSE. Ambassadors are here to answer all of your questions (no matter how big or small!) and to help you navigate the inner workings of our wonderful school. From carpool to carnival, we'll show you how it's done!

If you are interested in being linked with a Parent Ambassador, please contact:

Holly Pigg
Parent Ambassador Chair
hmpigg@gmail.com
803-981-2363

Student Store

Start saving your pennies...

The Student Store will open its doors for the 2016-2017 school year on Monday, Sept. 19!

Hours of Operation:

Mon/Wed/Fri
7:30 AM to 7:55 AM

Fun, new items in stock –
including Panthers products!

All items under \$2.



Order Your Spirit Wear Now!



Providence Spring Elementary – Fall 2016 Spirit Wear

Please visit pay4schoolstuff.com to place your order by 9/9/16.
Orders will be delivered by 9/30/16



Fine Jersey T-Shirt - 100% ringspun cotton
Vintage Navy, Vintage Purple or Military Green
PSE Home Logo



Youth XS-XL	\$12
Adult S-3XL	\$12

Green, Yellow, Orange & Blue Tie-Dye
100% Cotton
PSE ROCKS Logo



Youth XS-L	\$15
Adult S-3XL	\$16

Black Glitter Tee
Silver Metallic Flower Logo
Runs Slim



Youth S-L	\$16
Adult XS-2XL	\$18

CamoHex Performance Tee
Forest Green
Rockets Logo



Youth XS-XL	\$16
Adult XS-3XL	\$18

Burnout Hooded Sweatshirt in Deep Coral
Providence Spring Paint Splatter Logo
Runs Small



Youth S-XL	\$28
Adult S-2XL	\$28

Black with White Hooded Sweatshirt
Providence Spring Elementary Logo



Youth XS-XL	\$26
Adult XS-3XL	\$28

Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt
Neon Blue and Forest Green
Providence Spring Logo



Youth XS-XL	\$28
Adult S-3XL	\$30

Slouchy Tee with Dolman Sleeves
Green Stripe w/Providence Spring Logo
Oversized



Adult XS-XL	\$22
Only comes in Adult	

Help Metro School, Our CMS SchoolMate



PSE has the privilege of being the "sister school" to Metro School, which is located uptown. The school serves approximately 250 students, ages 3 to 22, with significant

disabilities. Many of the school's students have severe medical and physical needs, are in need of total physical care and assistance, and have other disabilities such as visual impairments, hearing impairments, and autism, in addition to their cognitive challenges.

We are honored to once again have the opportunity this year to be a part of their school community!

Metro School is in need of **NEW, UNUSED batteries, in sizes AA, AAA, and C, along with 9 volt**. There is a bin located in the front hall right as you walk in the main doors where you or your student can drop off battery packs **between Friday, August 26 (Meet the Teacher) and Friday, September 9**.



Contact Dana Brincefield (danabrincefield@gmail.com) with questions. As always, thank you!!!

New Teacher Introductions

Due to a printing error, these teacher intros were missing from or only partially included in the August 26 print edition of the Rocket Review. Go to the [PTA website](#) to read about all the new teachers at PSE.

Rebecca Romig, Second Grade



I am Rebecca Romig and I am so excited to join the second grade team at PSE! I have wanted to be a teacher for as long as I can remember, and I am so excited to start my career in this wonderful learning community. I recently graduated from High Point University where I received a BA in Elementary Education as well as a Master's Degree in Literacy.

I hope to foster a love of learning in each of my students. While pursuing my Master's Degree, I was a substitute teacher and had two long-term substitute positions in second grade. I love working with this age group!

In my free time I love to spend time with my family and friends, go to the beach, travel, and read. I just moved to Charlotte from Maryland, and I am looking forward to all this city has to offer. The school community has been so welcoming to me and I am looking forward to meeting my students and their parents. It is going to be an exciting year!

Sabrina Sanford, Fifth Grade



Hi, all! My name is Sabrina Sanford and I am so excited to be joining the Providence Spring community! Everyone I have met thus far has been just wonderful and I look forward to meeting so many more of you over the coming weeks.

I am originally from New Jersey where, living only 8 blocks from the beach, I mistakenly took ocean access for granted. My whole family is still in NJ and fortunately I visit often! After graduating from Ramapo College with a dual degree in Elementary Education and History, I moved to Washington, D.C. where I began my career as a teacher.

My husband and I made the move to Charlotte this past July and we are loving it here so far! We have a two-year-old

Chocolate Lab and we love spending time outdoors as a family. We are looking forward to exploring all of the great hiking and camping opportunities that North Carolina has to offer (once the weather cools down, that is!).

During my time in D.C., I taught for nine years at Murch Elementary in DC Public Schools. While at Murch, I had the pleasure of teaching 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. I am excited to continue my experience as a 5th grade teacher here at PSE!

I consider myself very fortunate to have the career I've always dreamed of. My grandmother taught for 38 years and was, and still is, an incredible role model for me. I have wanted to be a teacher for as long as I can remember and my passion for the profession and for my students is what drives me each and every day in my classroom.

I'm looking forward to a great first year at Providence Spring and am so grateful for the opportunity!

Brandon Vick, Third Grade



Hi, my name is Brandon Vick! I am excited to be teaching 3rd grade at Providence Spring Elementary this upcoming year! I moved to Charlotte, NC earlier this summer after living in Atlanta, GA for three years.

I am originally from Wilson, NC and graduated from N.C. State in 2009 with a degree in Communication-Media. After college, I worked for a private school as a substitute teacher; it was then I realized my passion for teaching. In 2013, my wife, Kristin, accepted a position in Atlanta, GA. It was then when I decided to go 'all in' and go back to school to become a certified Elementary school teacher. I graduated from Kennesaw State University this past spring with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education.

For fun, I like to read, go to the beach, walk my energetic Siberian Husky, Hudson, and spend time with family and friends. I am a diehard N.C. State and Carolina Panthers fan, and plan to attend many games this fall. I look forward to working at Providence Spring Elementary and am eager to meet my students; this is going to be a great year!

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