

## Principal's Prowl Newsletter



September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Kristen Sebek, Principal  
Banks Spicer, Assistant Principal

## Weddington Elementary School

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<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/54>

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### **From the Principal:**

Good evening Wildcat families! I hope this finds you enjoying the remainder our hot weekend! The most exciting news occurred this past week! North Carolina released the School Report Card grades and student proficiency growth ratings. ***Once again, Weddington Elementary earned a School Report Card grade of an "A"! Not only did our school earn an "A", our students and teachers increased their academic growth rate from a 2.21% in 2016-2017 to over 4.00% for the 2017-2018 school year! WAY TO GO WILDCATS!!*** This is an amazing accomplishment! We thank you for your continued support and commitment to our students, staff, and the instructional focus that takes place each day. We could not do it without the partnership of our wonderful parents. THANK YOU!

I am extremely happy to report that I have been cleared to return to work tomorrow, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Spicer has done a fantastic job taking on her leadership role in my absence. The office staff and entire WDES came together and were committed to the successful start of another school year. It just goes to show Weddington Elementary School continues to be a school of excellence because of the amazing staff and all of our stakeholders.

We look forward to continuing to serve our Wildcat families! Have a great week!

Warm regards,  
Ms. Sebek

### **Calendar of Events:**

**9/10** - "Independence Day" – all students walk to class independently

**9/11** - Student Picture Day

**9/11**– PTO Family Night – Chik-fil-A night – 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**9/18**– UCPS Early Release Day – students dismiss at 11:00 a.m.

**9/19** Teacher Workday – No school for students

**9/21** – Summer Reading Celebration – Media Center

**9/25** – 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Night – 6:00 p.m.

**9/27**–Grandparents/ Grandfriends' Day – K-2 students

**9/28** - Grandparents/ Grandfriends' Day - 3-5 students

***\*Please see the school calendar on the WDES webpage for additional dates of events.***

<p><b><u>COPPA Letter:</u></b> According to UCPS Policy, all parents are required to sign the COPPA letter. This form was sent home at the start of the school year. <b>Students who have not returned a signed COPPA form are not permitted to use any electronic device, such as computers or iPads.</b> Please be sure to sign and return the form so your child's instruction is not interrupted.</p> <p><b><u>Ident-A-Kid Visitor System:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW POLICY ON THIS SYSTEM.</u></b></p> <p>Weddington Elementary school ensures student safety continues to be the first priority of all staff. Our school electronic visitor system monitors all visitors in our building. Logging into the system upon arrival to campus is a school policy. <b><u>Parents and volunteers will need to present a government issued picture ID to log into the system every time he/she visits the campus. The previous policy was written for only first time visitors.</u></b> This is to ensure the most recent background information is entered into the system. Please inform all family and friends who visit our school of this change in the policy. We thank you for supporting the safety and security of our students.</p>	<p><b><u>Site Based Team Member Needed:</u></b> Are you interested in collaborating with the school staff and administration? We are looking for a parent to serve on our school Site Based Team. We only need your service for a monthly meeting on Wednesday afternoon. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please contact Mr. Justin Hoffman, our SBT Chairmen, at <a href="mailto:Justin.hoffman@ucps.k12.nc.us">Justin.hoffman@ucps.k12.nc.us</a>.</p> <p><b><u>Picture Day Tomorrow:</u></b> This Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, is student picture day. The flyer sent home to parents noted picture day to be Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> which is incorrect.</p> <p><b><u>Grandparent's/ Grandfriend's Day:</u></b> We can't wait to see our Grandparents and Grandfriends on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. If any Grandparent/Grandfriend would like to sign out the child after lunch, the child must be signed out in the office. A child cannot leave with the Grandparent/Grandfriend without being signed out in Powerschool.</p>	<p><b><u>WDES Independence Day:</u></b> As a reminder, tomorrow is the WDES Independence Day. This means all students will exit from the car in the car rider line and walk to classroom independently. Parents must refrain from walking students down the sidewalk to the front doors and/or to the classroom to encourage independence of all students. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this important safety procedure.</p> <p><b><u>Let Me Run:</u></b> Help the popular Let Me Run program return to Weddington this fall. Let Me Run is a running program for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade boys, but it's about the boy than the run. Counteracting the negative pressures society places on boys, the program uses running as the vehicle to inspire, teach, and reach them. Combining exercise with fun activities, coaches inspire boys to be courageous enough to be themselves, build healthy relationships, and live an active lifestyle. Coach training is provided and being a runner is definitely not a requirement. The fall season starts the last week of September. Practices are twice a week for an hour and 15 minutes. The season ends with a 5k race on November 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are interest, you can email Erin Romeiser at <a href="mailto:erinr@letmerun.org">erinr@letmerun.org</a> or Erin Colonna at <a href="mailto:erincolonna827@gmail.com">erincolonna827@gmail.com</a>.</p>
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<p><b><u>WDES Afterschool Clubs:</u></b></p> <p>Are you interested in your child having an afterschool activity? Be sure to check out our very own WDES Afterschool Clubs that are facilitated by our teachers. We have numerous clubs that is bound to meet your child's needs. Just go to the front page of our WDES website for all of the information, <a href="https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/101">https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/101</a></p>	<p><b><u>WHS Drama Club:</u></b></p> <p>Once again, Weddington High School is holding its Fall for Drama program. This is annual workshop is for local elementary students that will include learning improvisation games, acting skills, sound , lights and much more. Weddington High School theatre students will teach the workshops in a 1:5 ratio in a hands on environment on and in the high school auditorium with props and costumes. All participants will get a chance to work in all areas. Registration Deadline: Sept.21<sup>st</sup> or Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> if paying online. Please see the flyer in tonight's email.</p>
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<p><b><u>From the WDES PTO:</u></b></p> <p>Time to get or renew your annual PTO membership! The WDES PTO supports the educational needs of students and is an important link between the parents and staff at WDES. Last year, the PTO was able to contribute almost \$40k to school to purchase ipads, class shirts, agendas, communication folders, canvas book bags and art notebooks for each student. The PTO was also able to provide a \$200 grant to each teacher to purchase classroom needs. In addition, they hosted 8 community events, providing opportunities for families to get together and have fun!</p> <p><b>Membership is only \$15 per family</b> and can be purchased online at <a href="http://www.weddingtonpto.com">www.weddingtonpto.com</a>.</p> <p>A <b>Room Parent meeting</b> will be held on <b>September 26th at 9am</b> in the cafeteria. All Room Parents must attend. If you are unable to attend, email Kelly Lepsig at <a href="mailto:wdesptoparentcoordinator@gmail.com">wdesptoparentcoordinator@gmail.com</a></p> <p>The <b>Media Center</b> is looking for volunteers! Volunteer slots are available throughout the school day. This is a great volunteer role to get to know the school and students. Sign up at <a href="http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4FACAE2FA0FD0-wdes1">www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4FACAE2FA0FD0-wdes1</a>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK AT WEDDINGTON!!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
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Save the date! **Grandparents Days** will be on **September 27th and 28th!**

Be prepared for WDES Spirit Days! The **WDES Spirit Wear store** is open and ready for orders online at [www.weddingtonpto.com](http://www.weddingtonpto.com).

### **Mark Your Calendars...**

On **September 11th from 4 to 8pm**, WDES will host a **Spirit Night at the Wesley Chapel Chick-fil-A!** Mention WDES while ordering in store, drive thru and even order ahead, and a percentage of proceeds will come back to the school. Chick-fil-a is now offering the time-saving opportunity to order ahead and pay for the order through the Chick-fil-A One App. Just pick up the order in the store (under the pickup sign), in drive through, or at curbside. If you haven't already done so, load the app to your phone and place your next few Chick-fil-A orders using the app - <https://www.chick-fil-a.com/One>! Not only will it simplify your life, but you'll be rewarded with free menu items the more you use it! Every order placed through the app on September 11th will benefit WDES!

For up to date PTO reminders and information about WDES, please like us on **Facebook** at **Weddington Elementary School PTO**.

**Your WDES PTO Board**