

E. L. WRIGHT WARRIOR NEWS

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March/April 2009

Change in District proof-of-residency requirements

For the 2009 – 2010 school year, District Two will require all students to provide proof of residence at enrollment and yearly thereafter. New enrollees will need to provide three proofs-of-residence; current Richland Two students will need to provide one proof-of-residence — for new students, an electric bill, water bill, land line phone bill, cable/satellite, completely executed rental lease, or real estate purchase contract; for continuing students, a current utility bill (electric bill, water bill, landline phone bill, cable bill). If a District family moves to another residence within the District, the family will need to submit three new proofs of residence. If you receive your bills electronically, please print out a copy of the most recent.

The schedule to submit your proof of residency to E. L. Wright is:

8th grade: Monday March 16
7th grade: Monday April 20
6th grade: Monday May 18

Information: Jackie Greenway, E. L. Wright registrar, ext. 3050 or jgreenwa@richland2.org

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From the Principal

Spring is upon us and that means the wonderful season of testing is here. Students will soon be taking MAP tests to determine their growth, and the first PASS test, the writing portion, is in March. Additionally, we will be gearing up for PASS Blitz to help students prepare for the new state test.

Traditionally, our students have done well on both MAP and state testing, in large part due to the great instruction they receive from our dedicated and talented faculty. If you have been pleased with your child's educational experience here, please let these teachers know. Their hard work is a tribute to their dedication to our students and the love they have for teaching and learning. I applaud all that they do to help our students grow and prosper academically and socially.

I also want to take a moment to recognize our support staff. There are so many people who work behind the scenes to make everything run smoothly here, and often they are the glue which holds us all together. The teachers work diligently on the front lines of the classroom, but many support them in a variety of ways — from teacher's aides to secretaries, from cafeteria workers to custodians, from our bookkeeper to our administrators, all are so important to keeping E. L. Wright a top school and a great place for a world class education. I also want to recognize their hard work and dedication, and I hope you will join me in thanking them as well.

Finally, let me also say a huge thank you to all of our parents and guardians. Your support for us and your children make our job so much easier. It is wonderful to have such a dedicated group of people who support us all, from our PTO and SIC to parent volunteers. You all certainly make E. L. Wright the "Wright" place to be for our faculty and staff and particularly for me.

Go Warriors!

Regards,
Lori Marrero

Thank you, Parents!

Thank you to the parents who contributed to the Valentine Soup Lunch for teachers: Laurie Cone, Stephanie Cribb, Maria Currey, Bertina Dibb, Beth Drake, Suzy Duroux, Jen Finch, Wyndi Green, Toni Gresham, Sabrina Hooker, Sheliza Ismail, Nell Limbaugh, Madge McNaboe, Janice Metzger, Julie Palekas, Melanie Phemister, Rene Scheuer, Patti Stringfellow, and Kim Taylor. As always, it was a huge success — and we loved it.

Are your kids missing out on health care?

You may qualify for free insurance for your kids through Healthy Connections Kids. Health care is available for children under 19 without insurance for at least three months that have limited family income (example: family of four earning less than \$42,400 and have limited savings of less than \$30,000).

State and federally funded health care covers free doctor visits, dental and vision care, prescriptions, immunizations, lab work, x-rays, hospital visits, behavioral health care and more. Information: (888) 549-0820, Monday – Friday or www.SCChoices.com. Hablamos español.

PCA Dance to present concert version of ‘West Side Story’

Palmetto Center for the Arts will present a concert version (dance only) of “West Side Story” on Thursday, March 19, and Friday, March 20, at 7 p.m. in the Richland Two Auditorium. Tickets - \$6 for adults and \$4 for students, the military and senior citizens with proper ID — will be available in the box office before the performance. Box office will open at 6:15.

Under the direction of Anne S. Richardson, the performance will be appropriate for all ages. Information: Dr. Richardson, 699-2800 ext. 2832 or arichard@richland2.org

Did you know that . . .

You can add money to your child’s cafeteria account via www.mynutrikids.com. Pay online using your credit card or via a PayPal account. It’s quick, easy, and worry free.

Get ready for summer

Summer School Session I: June 10 – 18 (Language Arts and Science)

Summer School Session II: June 19 – 26 (Math and Social Studies)

8 a.m. – 1 p.m. daily (students must make up any missed time)

Students may take only one class per session. Those who need to take more than two classes must repeat the failed grade. The cost is \$200 per subject per student. All money must be paid in either cash or money order. No checks will be accepted. Payment deadline is June 4. All previous school fees owed must be paid before money is accepted for summer school. Bus transportation will be available to students zoned to attend E. L. Wright during the normal school year. All other students will be responsible for their own transportation. For information, download the brochure at www.richland2.org/content.aspx?id=18402 or contact Marise Shumpert, Lead Teacher for Summer School, mshumper@richland2.org or ext. 3055

Attention parents of rising Ninth Graders

Please make sure that your home address and phone numbers are correct on file so that the orientation materials you receive for high school are correct. Concerns or questions: Jackie Greenway in the Guidance Office, ext. 3050 or jgreenwa@richland2.org

At risk: looking at risky teen behavior

The next session of Project READY (Realistic Education About Dying Young), an injury-prevention program designed to explore the consequences of risky adolescent behavior, is set for May 2 and open to adults and teens. Sponsored by Palmetto Health’s Office of Community Services and Palmetto Health Richland’s Trauma Program, it aims to provide adolescents with a realistic insight into the consequences of risk-taking behaviors that lead to traumatic injury. Sessions include interactive presentations, a tour of the hospital’s trauma area and morgue, and injury/disability simulation stations. Registration is under way and limited to 30 participants. Registration: Carecall, 296-2273. Information: Brent Raley, 434-6776 or brent.rale@palmettohealth.org

Summer at Clemson University

Middle and high school students are eligible to attend Clemson University’s Summer Science, Engineering and Architecture Academic Enrichment Program. Students take classes in life, earth and physical sciences, engineering, mathematics, psychology, architecture, landscape architecture, economics and communications.

The program offers a schedule of educational, recreational and cultural activities to help broaden academic skills and develop creative abilities. Along with classes conducted by Clemson faculty, activities may include nature study hikes, small group discussions with Clemson faculty, career and educational guidance as well as movies, tennis, swimming, racquetball, and trips to University laboratories, the John C. Calhoun House, the Botanical Garden, the Hanover House, and the Clemson Forest. Students live in college dormitories, eat in the dining hall, and experience campus life along with other students from throughout the United States and other countries. Information: www.clemson.edu/summerscience

Curriculum Corner: academic engagement

Tests are easy,” some middle graders say. “It’s the questions that are hard.” But test questions aren’t so difficult if your child understands how to handle them.

Help your middle grader tackle tough questions by sharing these strategies.

True or false

As a general rule, a question should be answered false if any part of the statement is untrue. Suggest that your child look for words like all, none, and always. These may be clues that the answer is false. Example: “All the soldiers in the Revolutionary War were American.” At the same time, words like often and may usually signal that a statement is true.

Multiple choice

With these questions, it’s important that your middle grader read every choice before choosing an answer. This helps rule out answers he or she knows are wrong. Using this strategy, your child may have two options to pick from instead of five, which increases the chance of selecting the correct answer.

Essay

Encourage your child to read each question at least twice before answering. Making an outline will help organize thoughts so that writing is clear and flows smoothly. When your child has finished the essay, check spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

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Office help available for small projects

At Richland Northeast High School, Mark Whetstone’s class is available to stuff and label envelopes (they have a folding machine), sort and file, collate, apply labels, staple, and do other simple office tasks at the high school. If you or your business needs help with a project, please contact Mr. Whetstone at mwhetsto@richland2.org or 699-2800 ext. 2772.

Jr. Olympics registration under way at YMCA

Kids: time to register for the 2009 Jr. Olympics. Here’s your chance to be a Jr. Olympic athlete. Dribble, kick or swing to the Jeep Rogers Family YMCA on Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. All kids ages 8 – 13 are eligible to participate.

Show your support for the YMCA, Team USA, and Jr. Olympics with your purchase of the Official U.S. Olympic Team Ring. Wear these fun and trendy bracelets for only \$4.95. For more information, please call (803) 451-8439, Jeep Rogers Family YMCA, 900 Lake Carolina Drive. Proceeds help fund the U.S. Olympics and Jeep Rogers Family YMCA’s scholarship fund.

Deadline for the May/June newsletter: April 14
E-mail your news to info@elwm.richland2.org

‘Peter and the Wolf’ at Ridge View

For their tenth annual children’s concert, Ridge View High School Band will perform “Peter and the Wolf.” The April 20 concert, which begins at 10 a.m. at the District Auditorium, will be narrated by Joe Pinner of WIS-TV. Tickets for children are \$3 each and are free for accompanying adults. Information or reservations: 699-2999 ext. 244

Learn all about eBay at Adult Ed class

The W. R. Rogers Adult and Continuing Education Center is offering a class for people who want to learn how to buy and sell on eBay. The eBay: The Right Way adult education course will run March 26, 30, 31 and April 1. 1 – 3 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person. Classes meet at the W.R. Rogers Center, 750 Old Clemson Road. Information: 736-8787 ext. 317 or www.richland2.org/tech/rogerscenter

Unicef Angels earn their halos

Ms. Petty’s science classes raised \$248.70 for Unicef during their Trick-or-Treat for Unicef drive.

Thanks to all who helped the following angels raise donations to help supply water, food, medicine, and education to children worldwide who do not have the opportunities our children do: **Josey Abraham, Maria Avila-Rivera, Jordan Belgrave, Larry Burroughs, Tyon Daniels, Antwuan Dupree, Aisha Gallion, Quincy Gierszewski, Shannon Hampton, Mahogany Mack, Tyler Mathews, Gyasi McClain, Alix McKie, Cameron Pratt, Anthony Summers, Keynan White, Timani White, and Evan Woodward.**

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Lori Marrero, principal

Clip-and-save calendar

March 9 – 31	MAP testing
March 24	Richland Two School Board meeting. Spring Valley High School, 7 p.m.
March 27	Report cards issued
April 3	Field Day
April 6 – 10	Spring break
April 13	Weather make-up day
April 14	Richland Two School Board meeting. Dent Middle School, 7 p.m.
April 21	Reading RamPage Celebration
April 23	Interims issued
April 24	Wright Stuff Recognition Breakfast. 7:45 a.m.
April 28	Richland Two School Board meeting. E. L. Wright Middle School, 7 p.m.

Interim reports will be issued every three weeks and report cards every nine weeks.

Check www.richland2.org/schools/elwm/ for a more complete list of dates as well as Channel 12 for updated information.