



# Syring Elementary School

## Parent Newsletter

### September 27, 2019

District Mission Statement: Swartz Creek Community Schools is a family committed to excellence, instilling the values of integrity and compassion, and encouraging every individual to embrace challenges.

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event
October 2	National Walk to School Day
October 4	Twin Day for \$1.00
October 7-10	Book Fair
October 8	Parent-teacher Conferences 5-8 pm
October 10	½ day Dismissal at 11:55 am Parent-teacher conferences 1-3:30 & 5-7pm
October 11	NO SCHOOL

## Save the Date for Future Events

November 8, 10 am	All School Concert @ PAC
December 5	Santa's Workshop
January 31	Fun Night @ SCMS
June 3	Picnic/ Field Day

## Principal's Message

We are off to a great start this school year! In the first weeks of school we focus on getting to know students. In addition, we teach and practice our building-wide expectations using CREEK:

- C- commit to learning
- R - respect others
- E - everyone responsible
- E - everyone safe
- K - kindness counts

## PTO News

Book fair will be happening on October 7-10th. The fair will be open during the mornings for students to shop with their classes. It will also be open during parent-teacher conference on October 8th from 5-8 pm and on October 10th from 1-3:30 pm & 5-7 pm. Thursday will be the last day for the book fair. Please make sure that if you send in money with your student that you put it in an envelope with their name on it.

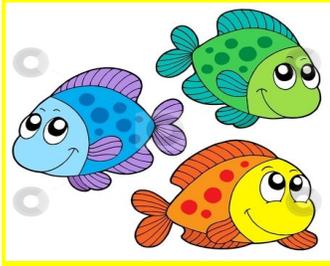
Our Next PTO meeting will be held on October 15th at 4 pm. We would love to see new faces! If you would like to get PTO event information and sign up information please make sure that our office has your correct email address on file.

Volunteers are always needed! If parents wish to help out at any events, in the classrooms, or chaperone field trips, Syring Elementary School must conduct a background check. Please be sure to submit a completed Volunteer Profile Form and submit to the Main Office at least (1) full week prior to the event you wish to volunteer for so the office has adequate time to conduct the required check.

For more information about the Syring Elementary PTO, please contact the PTO president:

Stacey Springer President [sspringer@swcrk.org](mailto:sspringer@swcrk.org)

*\*Our PTO also has a mailbox in the Main Office where messages can be dropped off.*



## Halloween Celebration News

This year our school will be allowing students to wear their Halloween costumes at school on October 31 during classroom parties. Please see below about specifics for this special event.

This year, instead of doing bounce houses, students will be allowed to wear costumes during their classroom party! All costumes must be able to fit over their clothes since they will only be wearing them during party time. Students must be able to dress themselves. An informational flyer will be sent home with students indicating which types of costumes will be permitted.

**Please remember: NO weapons, NO face paint, No masks, Nothing gory (fake blood).** More information will be coming home soon!

## Safety Notes

This year we are teaching additional safety protocols during lockdowns that are based on ALICE training that staff has received. Teachers will be reading a storybook with students that explains in a kid-friendly way what we do in case of danger. ALICE is much like a fire drill or tornado drill. Its purpose is to prepare students for life inside and outside the classroom. The ALICE concepts are the same whether a child is at school, the mall, home, church, the movie theatre, or any place the child goes. We are teaching a lifelong safety skill. Education and empowerment are the keys to preparation and relieving fear. One of the

most important skills we teach students is to STOP, LOOK and LISTEN in the event of an emergency. Students must follow the directions of the adults the first time they are given. All of the skills that we teach and the procedures that we follow are designed to keep our students safe.

## Tardy Policy Reminder

From our district student handbook:

A student who is not in his/her classroom by 8:40 am is considered tardy. Any student arriving late to school is to report to the school office before proceeding to class. Frequent tardiness adversely impacts a student's education. For attendance purposes, four (4) tardies will equal one (1) unexcused absence. If a pattern of excessive tardiness develops, the school administrator will send a letter to the parent explaining the problem and inviting the parents to the school for a conference in an effort to remedy the situation. If the problem continues thereafter, the school administrator will consult with the Genesee Intermediate School District School Attendance Officer, who will consider and advise whether the attendance problem should be referred to the Genesee County Family Court for further action.

## Welcome New Staff

Over the next few weeks we will be featuring new staff members in our newsletters so that you can get to know them.

### Jennifer Vander Laan, 4th Grade



Mrs. Vander Laan is a Michigan State graduate and earned my Masters from Oakland University. She has been teaching for 16 years in Swartz Creek. Mrs. Vaner Laan has been married for 12 years and has three children, two of them attend Syring. She enjoys traveling, visiting places around Michigan and loves Disney. Mrs. Vander Laan is looking forward to a great year and getting to know all the families here at Syring.

proficiency using various online applications. Students have also been exploring stations to build fine motor and social skills. They are working with materials that might make their parents nostalgic like Lincoln Logs and bristle blocks as well as newer items like shape connectors and logic puzzles. The excitement in the room is obvious by all the smiles and (sometimes loud) exclamations of success!

## Kyrstin Stadel, MTSS Aide



Ms.Kyrstin is 22 years old and a graduate of Swartz Creek Class of 2015. She currently holds an Associate of General Studies degree from Mott Community College with plans to eventually attend Cedarville University to obtain an Early Childhood/Special Education degree. She loves being outdoors! Ms. Kyrstin's favorite place to go is Formar to walk trails and find a spot to sit and read her devotionals. She also loves camping, singing in praise band, serving others, cooking, and fishing! Ms. Kyrstin is very excited to be a part of the Syring team and is looking forward to a great year!



# Syring Elementary School

Learning, Leading, Growing

Have a great school year here at Syring Elementary.

## Discovery at Syring

As our district continues to move toward more technology integration and 1:1 student devices, Syring's traditional art and technology classes have merged into our new "Discovery" class. This allows for more flexible, integrated teaching and learning. So far this year, students are getting to know the new Chromebooks and how to effectively work in Google Classroom. This will be ongoing throughout the year as students gain confidence and



