Welcome to...

South Fayette Elementary School
Mission Statement
(Strategic Planning 2019 - 2022)

The mission of the South Fayette School District, in partnership with the community, is to cultivate academic, artistic, and athletic excellence of the whole child by fostering the skills to be confident, ethical, empathetic, and responsible global citizens.
Principals’ Contact Information

➢ Laurie Gray, Principal
  ➢ Ext. 612
  ➢ lmgray@southfayette.org

➢ Tyler Geist, Associate Principal
  ➢ Ext. 337
  ➢ tjgeist@southfayette.org
  ➢ Twitter: @PrincipalGeist
Administrative Assistants

Mrs. Roberta Dantry
- Ext. 332
- rjdantry@southfayette.org

Mrs. Diana Maitland
- Ext. 315
- djmaitland@southfayette.org
Mrs. Molly Kuczinski, School Counselor
- Ext. 335
- mbkuczinski@southfayette.org

Mrs. Kara Miles, School Nurse
- Ext. 333
- klmiles@southfayette.org
Food & Nutritional Services

➢ Ms. Tricia Wood, Food Service Director
  ➢ Ext. 279
  ➢ pawood@southfayette.org

➢ Mrs. Lisa Bonnaure, Elementary Kitchen Leader
  ➢ Ext. 334
  ➢ labonnaure@southfayette.org
Transportation

➢ Mr. Brandon Soubie, Director of Transportation
  ➢ Ext. 452
  ➢ bdsoubie@southfayette.org

➢ Mrs. Cindy Lamberti, Administrative Assistant
  ➢ Ext. 417
  ➢ cblamberti@southfayette.org
Building Logistics

➢ Grades K - 2
➢ Approximately 800 students
➢ Kindergarten: 12 half-day sections (6 AM and 6 PM)
  ➢ Bottom Floor
➢ 1st Grade: 12 sections
  ➢ Bottom Floor
➢ 2nd Grade: 12 sections
  ➢ Top Floor
Transitioning/How Did We Get Here?

➢ Student Visitation- “Move-Up Days”
  ○ Incoming Kindergarten Parent Meeting (February)
  ○ Kindergarten Registration (March)
  ○ 1st Grade Tours (last May)
  ○ 2nd Grade Tours of the Intermediate School (last May)
  ○ 2nd Grade Lunch in the Commons (last May)
  ○ Q & A with Students and Teachers

➢ Meet the Teacher (August)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Student Drop-Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>Homeroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10 - 9:30</td>
<td>Opening Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:20</td>
<td>Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20 - 10:30</td>
<td>Flexible Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 10:55</td>
<td>Explore (Recess)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:55 - 11:25</td>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:25 - 11:45</td>
<td>Social Studies/Story Time/Dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## PM Kindergarten At A Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:38 - 1:05</td>
<td>Opening Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:05 - 1:30</td>
<td>Explore (Recess)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 - 2:23</td>
<td>Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:23 - 2:33</td>
<td>Flexible Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:33 - 3:03</td>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:03 - 3:23</td>
<td>Social Studies/Story Time/Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Student Drop-Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>Homeroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10 - 11:05</td>
<td>Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 - 11:55</td>
<td>Lunch/Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:55 - 12:30</td>
<td>Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 - 3:20</td>
<td>Specials/Math/Learning Lab Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:23 - 3:45</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Student Drop-Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>Homeroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10 - 12:00</td>
<td>Specials/Math/Learning Lab/ Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:50</td>
<td>Lunch/Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:50 - 3:20</td>
<td>Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:23 - 3:45</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Standards Based Grading Process

- "M" - child consistently meets criteria
- "I" - child is inconsistently meeting criteria
- "X" - child is not consistently meeting criteria
Teaching Structures

➢ Kindergarten is comprised of 6 half-day teachers who teach all subjects
➢ 1st grade and 2nd grade are comprised of 12 teachers who teach all subjects

➢ Children in Kindergarten will remain with the same teacher for their designated half-day session
➢ Children in 1st and 2nd grade may or may not remain with their homeroom teacher for Language Arts
Teaching Structures

➢ Learning Lab (STEAM Education)
  ○ Ms. Melissa Unger, STEAM Coordinator
    ■ Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math
  ○ Kindergarten students will formally attend Learning Lab throughout the school year
  ○ Students in 1st and 2nd grade attend Learning Lab 3 - 4 consecutive days based on the target project
    ■ Approximately 2 sessions per month
  ○ Students attend Learning Lab on a rotation with one classroom visiting at a time
Building Schedules

We have a 6-day cycle (Days A - F)

- **Special Area classes for Grades 1 and 2 include:**
  - Art - Mrs. Giovannucci
  - Physical Education (2 days) - Mr. Chappel
  - Arts Alive - Mrs. Falosk
  - Music - Mrs. Rudolph
  - Library - Mrs. Skerbetz
Building Schedules - Regular Arrival

➢ Students may be dropped off in the circular drive beginning at 8:30 a.m.
  ○ Students will be held in the Main Foyer until 8:45 a.m.
  ○ Students must be in their homeroom by 9:00 a.m.
  ○ Students need to be able to exit the vehicle independently.
  ○ Please park in the front lot if you need to walk with your child.
Attendance Procedures

➢ Students must be in their homeroom class by 9:00 a.m.
➢ Please review the attendance policies located in the Student Handbook
  ○ Issued by the state and we are bound to enforce it
➢ If your child is absent, a written excuse must be provide within 3 days
  ○ Can be handwritten or emailed
  ○ Please email the following:
    ■ Your child’s homeroom teacher
    ■ Mrs. Diana Maitland, Administrative Assistant and Attendance at djmaitland@southfayette.org
Building Schedules - Two Hour Delay

➢ AM Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students may be dropped off in the circular drive beginning at 10:30 a.m. during a planned or weather-related delay.

➢ PM Kindergarten students must be walked to the front door by a caregiver. You must park in the front lot and walk your child to the front door. Please do not park in the driveway.

○ AM Kindergarten (11:00 a.m. - 12:39 p.m.)
○ PM Kindergarten (1:44 - 3:23 p.m.)
○ 1st & 2nd Grade (11:00 a.m. - 3:23 p.m.)
Building Schedules - Lunch & Recess

➢ Regular Days:
  ○ 1st Grade (11:05 - 11:55)
  ○ 2nd Grade (12:00 - 12:50)
  ○ K - Express (11:45 - 12:15)

➢ Delay Days:
  ○ 1st Grade (11:05 - 11:45)
  ○ 2nd Grade (12:00 - 12:40)
  ○ K - Express (12:40 - 1:10)
Building Schedules - Dismissal

➢ Parent pick-up begins at 3:15 p.m.
  ○ You will need to park in the stadium lot and enter through Door B3 near the Discovery Garden
  ○ You will also need to provide a valid form of photo identification before your child is released to you
  ○ Other people picking-up your child:
    ■ Notify the Main Office in advance
    ■ Must have photo identification
Parent Pick-Up Door
Building Schedules - Dismissal

➢ Students may have up to 2 routines
  ○ Routine #1 - ride bus home Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
  ○ Routine #2 - ride bus to daycare Thursday and Friday.

➢ For the child’s safety, a note or email from a parent/guardian before 2:00 p.m. is necessary if there is to be a change in dismissal plans.
Dignity & Respect Program

➢ Dignity & Respect - anti-bullying campaign created by UPMC
  ○ 30 tips formally taught and reinforced by each grade level K - 5

➢ 2nd Grade Student Ambassadors
  ○ Meet regularly with principals and others with the overarching goal of promoting kindness

➢ Monthly activities to promote kindness
How to Get Involved
PARENTS/GUARDIANS/CAREGIVERS

➢ Review electronic communications that come from the Elementary School (uses email account registered with PowerSchool)

➢ PTA meetings and events (www.southfayettepta.org)

➢ School events

➢ Formal parent-teacher conferences in November
PTA Events

➢ Halloween Party (October); Holiday Party (December); and Valentine’s Day Party (February)
  ○ Parties are held in the homeroom classroom
  ○ Will need to have proper photo identification
  ○ Parents sign up for one party

➢ Track and Field Day (June)

➢ Science Fair, Holiday Mart, Family Fitness Night, Family Reading Night, Book Fair, Sweetheart Dance, Family Bingo Night, etc.
Guiding Your Child Through School

➢ Be an educational partner
➢ Structure and organization
➢ Encouraging appropriate levels of independence
➢ Vary friendships
➢ Facing adversity and accepting responsibility
Being an Educational Partner:

Be an active presence in your child’s learning. This includes discussing your child’s experiences in school both academically and socially. You will have the opportunity to schedule a formal parent-teacher conference in November, but teachers are very willing to communicate with caregivers at any time.
Structure and Organization:

Develop a set time and place for homework and studying to keep your child prepared and organized. Homework can be assignments, reviewing learned material, or independent reading.
Encouraging Appropriate Levels of Independence:

One of our goals is to help your child become an independent learner as appropriate for their developmental level and age. Encourage your child to clean-up their toys, put dishes in the sink, or help pack their backpack in the evening. Similarly, encourage your child to verbalize their needs and self-advocacy skills.
Vary Friendships:

Help your child identify their passions and interests in order to encourage participation in various interest groups. Clubs, sports, and activities can be a great way to broaden peer relationships and provide a support network through their schooling.
Facing Adversity and Accepting Responsibility:

Students learn responsibility from their actions and consequences only when they take accountability. It is best to avoid making excuses or trying to fix their problems for them. Some of life’s greatest lessons come from making mistakes and facing adversity.
How To Stay Organized

➢ Agendas and take-home folders (first grade and second grade)

➢ Leverage the iPad to organize tasks and assignments (first grade and second grade)

➢ Plan ahead by balancing extracurricular participation with school work

➢ Have a consistent homework routine at home

➢ Read all communications from school to keep apprised of upcoming events and important dates
Welcome to the South Fayette Elementary School Family!

We are looking forward to partnering with you to provide your children with the best educational experience possible!