



# Pearl River School District

EVANS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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**Peggy Lynch**  
Principal

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Dear Evans Park Families:

As we put away our holiday trimmings and settled in for the winter, the Evans Park PTA and staff have been preparing for *PARP* and *One School, One Book*, two programs focused on reading widely. Our programs are ready, the excitement is building; tomorrow we will have an assembly to launch the *PARP* theme, "Read through Time," and on Monday we will meet the boys and girls once again to begin *One School, One Book*. New this year, we will be sharing audio files for each chapter of the book on our website, recorded by Evans Park Staff members. Our hope is that enabling families to listen along and share in the experience even on particularly busy after-school days will be an option you'll enjoy periodically. (It is also an opportunity to reread.) Please be on the lookout for program details, including opportunities to read to your child's class, and plan to enjoy the schoolwide book and other reading material you plan as a family. Remember, many, many studies indicate that children who read at home are poised to succeed throughout their years in school and beyond. Simultaneous to the work of these programs, I'm pleased to tell you that third and fourth grade teachers have been reading and collaborating on the topic of increasing reading engagement and motivation. They are actively planning to implement small group seminars to influence improvement in that area.

In the way of reminders, we will remain indoors for recess on extremely cold days, but when the temperatures and wind chill factors are in our favor, children will go outside to play. You can ensure their comfort by routinely sending them prepared with warm outerwear, including a hat and gloves or mittens. Please check your child's gear as he/she departs in the morning to be certain of readiness for indoor or outdoor recess.

One more reminder has to do with dismissal changes. All dismissal changes are expected to come to school in writing, before noon on the day of the change. These changes include being a walker instead of a bus rider and vice versa, staying after school for scouts or PTA programs, being picked up by someone other than the parent. If you send the note by email, it should go to the classroom teacher and Mrs. Zeppetella, [zeppetellam@pearlriver.org](mailto:zeppetellam@pearlriver.org). Last minute changes or missing notes are a huge concern for students, staff and parents as they increase the margin for error and cause disruption to an otherwise smooth process. Please work with us to keep our children safe and confident at the end of each school day.

The winter months are busy as we work to achieve goals and set new ones for the second half of the school year. Visiting classrooms each day, I am appreciative of everyone's efforts and pride in the learning taking place. Join us during the next few weeks for *PARP*; I know you'll feel that way too.

Looking forward to seeing you at school,  
Peggy Lynch

