



# Gator Gazette

Volume 6, Issue 10  
May 31, 2018

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**Alston Ridge Elementary**

11555 Green Level Church Road, Cary, NC 27519

Phone: 919-544-2474 Fax: 919-544-6545

Principal: Teresa Caswell

Assistant Principal: Ben Cline

Assistant Principal: Niko Schutte

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## CONGRATULATIONS!! CLASS OF 2018

**Hello Gator parents and friends.** The 2017 – 2018 school year is coming to a close but not before we say farewell and good luck to our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students.

There are picnics and year end ceremonies planned to help show our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade how proud we are of them and the success they have achieved at Alston Ridge.

### **Please join us for the 5th Grad year end celebrations**

Tracks 1 & 2 Picnic - June 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm

Track 1 Graduation Ceremony - June 7 at 11am

Track 2 & 3 Picnic – June 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm

Track 4 Graduation Ceremony – June 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am

Tracks 2 & 3 Graduation Ceremony – June 29<sup>th</sup> at 1pm

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the year end activities contact [clare.kneis@unhealth.unc.edu](mailto:clare.kneis@unhealth.unc.edu) or [karfogg55@gmail.com](mailto:karfogg55@gmail.com).

# Caswell's Corner

## Greetings Gator Families!

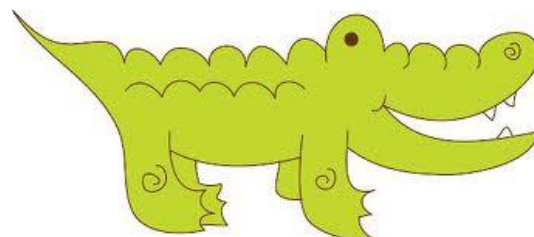
**Synergy:** the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.

**Cloping:** the combined closing of one school year and opening of the next that occurs in year-round schools.

It's a rare thing when so many positive possibilities come together to work towards the improvements and successes of all. As I move through my fourth cloping, I feel that synergy all around me. The staff has worked tremendously hard to do all that I ask of them (which is a lot!) and more to support their professional development, our school culture, student achievement and you, our families. It is an honor to be your principal and do what I love.

The night I write this, I had the pleasure of being at the May 23rd special Board of Education meeting that announced and inducted Mrs. Cathy Moore as our new WCPSS superintendent. I have had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Moore over the years, including being part of the 2015 Wake County Strategic Plan planning committee. In reflecting on that time, my ideas on innovation, incorporating the 4C's, and developing positive culture, were solidified in the work developing a strategic plan with county leadership (including Mrs. Moore!), assistant principal and principal colleagues, and the community. I saw what could happen when diverse groups work together towards a common goal. I have modeled my leadership and my "A>4" vision for Alston Ridge from that work as it deeply affected me. And now, during our cloping, I see it all coming "full circle" as our students thrive, achievement gains, and the project approach innovates and provides a level of engagement I hope for and now see regularly. Thank you for being a part of the process and trusting me with your most precious asset! Onto the 2018-19 school year!

Cheers and with love,  
Teresa Caswell, Principal.



## Field Day!!

It's that time again for fun in the sun! Let's all come out and help cheer our children on at the annual Alston Ridge Field Day.

Field Day for Tracks 3+4 is June 8: 9:30 - 11:30AM for grades K-2 and 12:30 -2:30PM for grades 3-5.

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Did You Forget to Order a Yearbook?

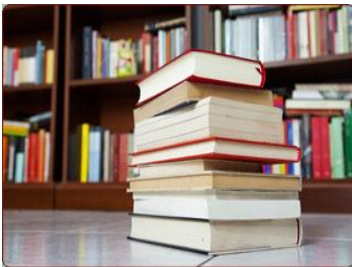
Don't Worry...Be Happy  
Yearbooks are still available

Quantities are limited. The cost of the yearbook is \$20.

To order a yearbook send an email to [areyearbook2017@gmail.com](mailto:areyearbook2017@gmail.com). Then send a check or cash to school in an envelope labeled with Yearbook order, the student's name, teacher, and grade.

The yearbooks are available on first come first serve basis.

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## Media Center Help

Ms. Santiago is asking for a few volunteers to help with shelving books, organizing shelves, and/or scanning books into inventory the week of June 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. To sign up:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20f0945aea92d6-media>

## Join Alston Ridge PTA

### **Become a member of the PTA today!**

Partner with the PTA via MemberHub. The PTA aids with the book fair, movie night, Reflections program, Science Olympiad, teacher treats, etc.

Without parent help, these programs cannot exist.

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## ARE Teachers Celebrating Birthdays in May and June

Teresa Caswell, Principal  
Amanda Shaffer-Hudson, Kindergarten  
Raven Moore, TA-Kindergarten  
Mollie Fitzgerald, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Michelle Palmer, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ashley Craver, TA-Tech

Lakshmi Shridhar, Pre-K  
Kim Mallard, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Stacy Yang, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Dana Hurley, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Nancy Spellman, TA-1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Lyndsay Semling, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Troy Blanchard, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ann Lane, ID Mild  
Heather MacGrogan, Read Theatre



# THE PTA NEEDS YOU!

**Hello parents and friends.** The 2018 – 2019 school year is approaching quickly and we are looking for a new PTA board.

The new PTA year starts July 1.

We are in need of a **President, VP Wellness, VP Fundraising, Secretary, VP Staff Appreciation, VP Communications** and **VP Cultural Arts Programs**. ***No prior experience is necessary***, just a love for the school. No amount of help is too little and there are subcategories as well.

The PTA is responsible for many activities and without a board, none of it would be possible. We have given rise to:

Gator Fest, Movie Night, treats for the teachers on early release days, Boxtop/prizes, Spirit Nights, Rock Climbing Night, Book Fair, Newsletter, School Supply kits, Field Day help, and MUCH MUCH MORE!

Any interest should be sent to [nominations.arpta@gmail.com](mailto:nominations.arpta@gmail.com)



Visit [our local business partners](#), take a photo of your receipt and text the receipt to [arpta@rcityrocks.com](mailto:arpta@rcityrocks.com) within two weeks. 10% of your purchase will be donated to the ARE PTA.

Here are just a few of the participating local businesses: Viva Mexican Kitchen, Penn Station East Coast Subs, Georgina's, Two Guys Grille, The Original NY Pizza, Alpaca, Spa Retreat Cary.

To see a complete list of participating businesses visit: [www.rcityrocks.com/the-triangle](http://www.rcityrocks.com/the-triangle)



**Text To Support Our PTA!**



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receipt photo

=

**50% all of May!**  
25% for  
our PTA!

**Text JOIN to [arpta@rcityrocks.com](mailto:arpta@rcityrocks.com) to start**



All 5% Community Partner donations are matched by Town & Country Realty, Roofwerks, The Original Mattress Factory, and John Tudor State Farm Agent!





# WHERE TO GO, TO BE IN THE KNOW!

Like "Alston Ridge PTA" on  
Facebook to get all the  
latest updates  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
AlstonRidgePTA](https://www.facebook.com/AlstonRidgePTA)



Alston Ridge  
MemberHub  
[alstonridgeelementary  
.memberhub.com](http://alstonridgeelementary.memberhub.com)

Alston Ridge Elementary  
Website:

[wcpss.net/alstonridgees](http://wcpss.net/alstonridgees)

Follow Us on Twitter At:  
Teresa Caswell, Principal  
**@TeresaLky3** and Alston  
Ridge Elementary  
**@AlstonRidgeES**

Alston Ridge Elementary  
PTA Website:

<https://alstonridgepta.com/>

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[wcpss.net/alstonridgees](http://wcpss.net/alstonridgees)



2017-18 PTA Board

President - Reneta Tracy

Treasurer - Antoine Johnston

Secretary - Stephanie Jasper

VP of Communications - Kim Fogg

VP of Academic Programs - Allison Lundstrom

VP of Social Programs - Teachers - Stephanie Roether

VP of Social Programs - Families - Heather O'Donohue

VP of Wellness Programs - Holly Tibbo-Valeriate

VP of Major Fundraising - Kelia Cain