

# RED CEDAR ELEMENTARY SIC

**Who we are:** The School Improvement Council (SIC) is a committee of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members. One of our purposes is to work together with the school to create a positive environment for learning, and by increasing the ways parents are involved in their children's learning at school and in the home and to achieve all areas of learning.

## **What we do:**

Our SIC helps and supports Red Cedar Elementary in the following ways:

1. We participate in the development of the 5-year School Improvement Plan for Red Cedar Elementary. This plan can be found
2. At the beginning of each school year, we create new goals for the SIC to support this plan.
3. Throughout the year we find specific ways to implement these goals in the school.
4. At the end of the year we publish and distribute the Annual Report to the Parents as an update to the Red Cedar Elementary parents.

## RCES 20-21 SIC Goals

- **Goal 1** – The SIC will support staff by facilitating increased communication with parents and promoting increased encouragement of staff (the Valentine's Love Letter is an example of this).
- **Goal 2** – The SIC will facilitate increased communication between the school and parents and will facilitate increased parent involvement in the school through activities such as SIC and PTO (this includes a joint SIC/PTO meeting held in March; and attending joint SIC board meeting for increased contact with other schools around the district)
- **Goal 3** – The SIC will create a community partners invitation letter for the 21-22 school year to invite local members of the community to join our SIC and to be active volunteer members of the RCES community.
- **Goal 4** – The SIC will help the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team brainstorm and implement ideas for graduation to allow increased family involvement while maintaining safe Covid related practices.

## Dear Foxes,

2020-2021 has been a year of adapting constantly to meet the ever changing and many needs of the students and families of Red Cedar. It has also been a year of learning flexibility and trying new things especially with learning platforms in order to help students thrive. Additionally, Red Cedar Elementary has sought to engage and encourage its students and families to meet the many social and emotional needs that came to the forefront this year.

Red Cedar Elementary continues to grow all students and live out its vision **to do whatever it takes to help its students succeed** even when faced by new challenges and changes brought about due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We continue to utilize Project Based Learning (PBL); it leads the way for students to apply standards-based knowledge while solving real-world problems.

A focus on Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM) incorporation across the curriculum continues as a strength at Red Cedar. Students can engage technology, even in the “distance learning” environment, with 1:1 device access and utilization in the classroom and in the home.

Red Cedar SIC looks forward to continuing its work as we support RCES and celebrate Red Cedar’s Staff and Students. We would love to have you JOIN us as we work to make RCES stronger and better in the year to come!

## **Awards and Achievements for RCES and staff during the 2020-2021 year**

Palmetto’s Finest 2015

Advanced STEM Certified School

Palmetto Gold and Silver

Mr. Kooi, Music Teacher, Teacher of the Year

Ms. Byrne, School Nurse, Support Staff Person of the Year

\$1000 Wellness Award awarded by MUSC

6000 boxes of cereal were donated by the RCES community that provided 60000 meals and provided resources to 10 different local agencies including Bluffton Self Help, @secondhelpings, Open Arms Fellowship, St. Stephen in Ridgeland, St. Paul in Coosawhatchie, First Euhaw Baptist, Margaret Curtis Food, St. Francis Center on St. Helena, Hopewell AME Church in Estill.

15 teachers trained in the Orton-Gillingham method for reading comprehension

## **Student Recognition and Student of the Month Character Awards for 20-21**

### **Student of the Month Character Awards**

October- Courage/Tolerance    Dominick Grassi    2nd grade

November- Respect/Gratitude    Charlee (Maggie) Jameson    1st grade

December- Compassion    Reed Jameson    4th grade

January- Perseverance   Jokubas Sapezinskas   Kindergarten

February- Honesty   Jackson Gullet   5th grade

March- Self-Control   Binyamin Velasquez   4th grade

April- Forgiveness   Camila Garcia   1st grade

May- Responsibility   Kennedy Frazier   4th grade

## **SIC Members**

Rachel Mullen, chair/parent

Nathan Goff, secretary

Dr. Kathleen Corley, Principal

Cynthia Laizer, Assistant Principal

Laura Jacobi, Parent

Kelly Wersler, Parent

Virginia Pratt, Teacher

Lindamarie Gatto, Teacher

Rebecca Hannahs, Teacher

Rachel Cioaccari, Teacher

Emily Waters, Teacher

Maria Kennedy, Teacher

## **Red Cedar Vision:**

We will do whatever it takes to ensure all students find success.

## **Red Cedar Mission:**

We empower our students to be life-long learners, innovative thinkers, and citizens of good character in an ever-changing world.