



The Leopard Link

Good Morning Amazing Lead Mine Families!

I would like to start by thanking each of you for some of the best years of my life. From each of you I have learned as I grew and developed as a leader and for that I will forever be grateful.

One of my greatest joys this year has been sitting back and seeing how amazing our school community is in every way. It was very early on in the year when I commented to our team that we have come a long way on our journey together.

As a constant reflector - I always look for barriers we can work to overcome in order to support all learners in achieving. During one of these reflective conversations I was asked the question What I would do next? My immediate response was that there was no next...that I was where I loved to be. I know that I am not a person who desires to ever leave a school building and be too far away from students.

The next question was "What about Middle School?"

From that conversation forward - a door was opened - and I have found myself wondering about how the work we have done would transfer to a Middle School setting, how we would implement or approach things differently from a Middle School perspective. It has been a fun challenge thinking through these questions and wonderings as we continue to see success and pass milestones in the elementary setting.

I hope that everyone in our school community knows how difficult the decision was for me to apply for the position at East Millbrook Magnet Middle School was - as I knew that I would be leaving the community that I have fallen so in love with.

As a servant leader, I believe that it is my duty to serve. The next chapter in my career will allow me to continue my servant leadership with a new school community and will provide me more experiences for learning and growing.

From the time that I submitted my application for this new position - I have struggled with a variety of emotional responses. The immediate response was a heightened level of respect, admiration and appreciation for everyone in the Lead Mine community. I knew that I would be sad and I felt that immediately upon learning that I would be appointed the new position, but nothing prepared me for the overwhelming emotional response that I felt Wednesday morning.

I know we have built something amazing at Lead Mine these past four years when it hurts this much to leave the leadership role. I am only stepping back and not away as Daniel will remain at Lead Mine into the future. We look forward to seeing him finish Kindergarten and hopefully move up to 1st grade next year.

Our family now looks forward to seeing you all from a new parent only perspective as we watch our children grow alongside each other.

I am nothing but thankful for the opportunity to serve the past four years and I look forward to the continued growth that our new school community leader will bring to Lead Mine.

With gratitude,

Aaron Marcini



Calendar of Events

5/1
NO SCHOOL

5/3
Fitness Friday

5/6
5:30 PM Parent Input Session
re: new principal

5/6-5/10
Staff Appreciation Week

5/8
Walk to School Day

5/10
Sprit Day: Inside Out Day
Fitness Friday

5/14
4:00-9:00 FNO at Pa-
pa's/Bottle Rev/Two Roosters

5/17
Fitness Friday

5/24
Fitness Friday

5/27
NO SCHOOL:
Memorial Day

5/28
P2 Assembly (Date Change):
8:45-9:45 K-2nd
10:00-11:00 3rd-5th
6:30 PM PTA Meeting

5/31
Fitness Friday

6/7
Spirit Day: Color War

6/10
Fifth Grade Recognition
4-9:00 PM FNO Kings Bowl

6/11
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Editor's Note: *The Leopard Link* is published weekly by the Lead Mine PTA. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate pertinent school, PTA, and education-related information to the Lead Mine community. Advertisements and solicitations from local and corporate businesses will not be accepted. **The submission deadline for content is each THURSDAY at 12 PM for the following week's issue.** Please e-mail newsletter submissions to theleopardlink@gmail.com. Sign up to receive this newsletter electronically by e-mailing bonniebendell@hotmail.com. Thank you! ~ *The Leopard Link* Editor: Tricia Lane.



Spots of Thanks go to...



... everyone who braved the rain and came to the Carnival on Friday! We are always amazed by our Lead Mine families and the heart of the community. You make our school an incredible place to laugh and learn.

...special thanks to **Casey Little, Johnna Elstob, Kathleen Bove, Arlene Cayouette, Melissa Shedd, Callie Wright, Lauren Cotter, Sarah Burton, Iryna Shkarbanov, Laurence "Frenchy" Henrion, Greg Bass, Andy Jones, Jimmy Wright, Gaye Brothers,** and ALL the amazing volunteers and staff who worked so hard to make the night great!



Dr. Kenneth A. Branch returns to Lead Mine Elementary School after having served as its interim principal in 2015. He has over 30 years of experience

in education in North Carolina. He holds degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University. He served as the principal of two elementary and two middle schools in the Wake County Public School System as well as director of the district's middle schools. Before retiring in 2012, Dr. Branch was named Wake County's Principal of the Year. Additionally, he has served as adjunct professor of educational leadership at North Carolina State University as well as executive coach for the University's Northeast Leadership Academy. Since retiring, Dr. Branch has enjoyed serving as an interim principal for our school system and the facilitator of various leadership development initiatives. He also served as the head of school at Hopewell Academy in Cary, 2016-18.

We are thrilled that Dr. Branch will be with us to serve as interim principal at Lead Mine Elementary until a permanent principal is appointed. Welcome!



<http://leadminepta.weebly.com/>



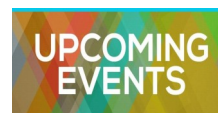
www.bit.ly/LMEVolunteering



@Lead_Mine_PTA



www.facebook.com/LeadMineElementaryPTA



<http://bit.ly/LMECalendar>

Two Roosters is again hosting its Student Creations -

Guest Ice Cream Flavors for the month of May.

For those of you who don't know, 3rd through 5th graders were given an opportunity to develop an ice cream flavor for Two Roosters. Three flavors were chosen from Lead Mine Elementary School and three flavors were chosen from Lynn Road Elementary School. A portion of all sales of these flavors will go back to Lead Mine Elementary School. These flavors can only be found at the Lead Mine location from May 1 to May 31. Come in and try them all!!

Flavor Contest Winners from Lead Mine are:

Lily Bendell (5th Grade) - Chocolate Covered Strawberry Ice Cream

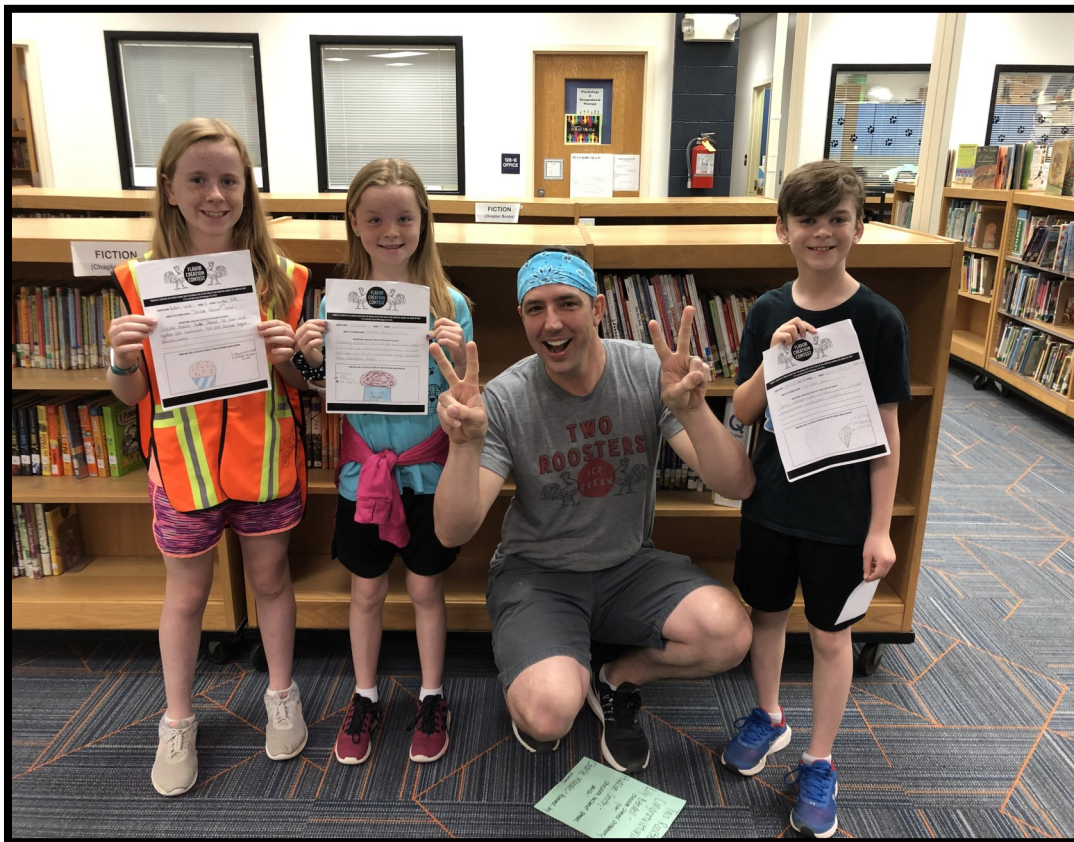
Hudson Smith (5th Grade) - Chocolate Hazelnut Spread Ice Cream

Charlie Manole (3rd Grade) - Coconut Almond Joy Ice Cream (non-dairy option)

Two Roosters can be found at Greystone Village,

7713 Lead Mine Rd, Raleigh, NC 27615

<http://www.tworoosters.com/>



<http://leadminepta.weebly.com/>



www.bit.ly/LMEVolunteering



@Lead_Mine_PTA



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Save the Date



EAT



Drink



Be Merry

SUPPORTING LEAD MINE HAS NEVER BEEN TASTIER!

TUESDAY, MAY 14TH • 4 TO 9 PM •
GREYSTONE VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER



<http://leadminepta.weebly.com/>



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