



## SPEECH NEWS



Dear Parents,

It is that time again to kick off an exciting school year. I wanted to take the time to welcome both new and returning students. My name is Mrs. Andrews and I am going to be your child's speech-language pathologist for the 2019-2020 school year. This is my tenth year working for The Central Bucks School District. I graduated from La Salle University in 2009 with my Masters in Speech –Language Pathology. I completed an Autism Certificate program in 2011 through La Salle University and obtained my Special Education Supervision Certification in 2016 from Delaware Valley University.

I am happy to share some wonderful news with all of you! My husband and I are expecting our first child at the end of January at which time I will be on maternity leave. I expect to return at the end of April/beginning of May. During my time away another wonderful SLP will be my substitute.

The pocket folder that contains this letter is a very important part of your child's program. It will include weekly assignments for practice and review. It will also be our primary method of communication. It will designate the day and time your child will receive Speech-Language Support (once scheduling is finalized). All of your child's speech-language class work and homework assignments should be kept in the folder throughout the school year. Please do not throw away any papers in your child's folder since they are often reviewed during the school year to promote carryover. Reviewing lessons and assignments should be considered just as important as your child's math or spelling homework. *Progress towards speech-language goals will not likely be made if assignments are not reviewed and completed.*

**Please encourage your child to do the following:**

- Bring the folder home on the day he/she had Speech/Language Support
- Do the assigned lesson for carry-over and practice- if there is no homework- review a previous assignment
- Obtain your signature (only after you have checked the work or observed the practice)
- Bring the folder back to school on the assigned day

If your child is working to improve his/her speech, he/she should practice 5-10 minutes per day. Please listen to your child practice and then sign the assignment. It is often difficult for students who are learning to correct their sounds to discriminate between new vs. old speech patterns. Initially- listening for correct vs. incorrect sounds is crucial to success.

If your child is working to improve his language skills, please assist him/her to complete the language lesson by discussing the lesson's application (the goal of the lesson) to your family's personal experience. Try to incorporate the goal of our classroom lesson into your routine activities. Your role in speech and language development is valued and important! I am always free to give ideas to make our goals more "natural" and help them fit into your daily routine. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail, phone, or note, for suggestions. The more involved parents are in their child's speech and language program, the more successful that child will be in reaching his/her goals.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me:

- Email: nandrews@cbsd.org
- Telephone: (267) 893-4532

I look forward to working with you and your child by assisting him/her to reach his/her speech-language/communication goals. Wishing you a successful school year!

Thank you, Natalia Andrews M.S. CCC-SLP