



Volume 7, Issue 9

April 2015

State of the Den

Spring is in the air; and it's invigorating to go outside again (after taking allergy medicine) without worrying about frostbite, school delays, or being "accidentally" hit by a snowball. It's a time when you can't avoid being drenched in the fragrant aromas of blooming flowers. This time of year also brings...the less aromatic arrival and equally unavoidable blooming state-mandated testing.



We have to see these tests as those spring showers that bring May flowers; in this case, the flowers being evidence of how much our children have learned (well, at least in the tested areas - we all know they learn far more than is ever tested). The tests are a fact of our lives; we make the best of them and appreciate the outside validation of all our efforts that they have always brought to Endeavor. I feel confident this year will not alter the fact that terrific families, teaming with terrific educators, bring terrific results.

We have found in past years that the way our students approach testing makes a profound difference. It's not easy for teachers or parents to strike the perfect balance between making students aware that they should try their very best while also emphasizing that they should not feel so stressed by the procedure that they inadvertently sabotage themselves. Our philosophy has always been that our teachers are preparing our students for success all year, and they consequently do not have to spend the last quarter teaching everything for the first time. They will review, as is appropriate considering how much information is required for each subject, but these tests are not the pinnacle of the Endeavor experience. As you talk with your children, please assure them that they will be fine; they simply need to relax and give it their best shot. You have prepared them as well by getting them to school (critically important on testing days!), trusting their teachers, helping them with homework, contacting their teachers when concerned, and by regulating their eating and sleep habits - that's all anyone can expect.



Upcoming Events

April 3:
Early Release

April 7, 8:45 a.m.:
Common Grounds Meeting, Giving Tree Donation Day, MPR

April 13, 7 p.m.:
Board Meeting, MPR

April 16:
Boosterthon Fun Run (Grades K-2; 9-10 a.m.; Grades 3-5; 10:10-11:10 a.m.; Grades 6-8 Color Run; 2-3 p.m.)

April 22:
Day of Science

April 22-23:
Terracycle "Trash 4 Cash" Earth Day Contest

April 23:
School Pictures

April 27-30:

So, parents, you also need to relax about testing. I'm sure you are aware of how your children pick up on your emotions - positive or negative - even when you have done your best to hide them. All will work out in the end as it always has at Endeavor!

The **revised** testing schedule, reflecting snow make up days:

June 2: grades 3-5, reading;
grade 8, science
June 3: grades 3-5, math;
CC1 math
June 4: grades 6-8, reading;
grade 5, science;
grade 3, make ups
June 5: grades 6-8, math;
grade 3 make ups
June 8: grades 4-8, make ups
June 9: grades 4-8, make ups
June 10: grades 4-8, make ups
June 11: grades 4-8, make ups

The school desperately needs the assistance of approximately 75 wonderful parents to proctor in the testing rooms. Mrs. Ventresco, our reading and testing coordinator, will soon be sending out a plea for help with more specifics. Please help us with this required procedure!

See you in the *dual* lanes,
Steve

A Message From Our PAWS President

Here we are - 4th quarter.

Is it the time for us to look back at the school year in awe of all we have accomplished as administrative staff, teachers, students and parents...? Absolutely.

For some of us, the appreciation for how far Endeavor Charter School has come over the last 7 years continues to gain momentum.

John Balla served our school as the first PAWS President during the 2008/09 school year. Below is an excerpt from his final PAWPRINT article submission in June 2009:

"When I think back to last summer, I remember the hope and excitement we felt at the prospect of our kids enrolling at this brand new charter school called "Endeavor." The school was still empty - no furniture, books, teachers or students, and certainly no "PAWS" yet. It was definitely coming together, but for all intents and purposes it was still just the promise of a great school to come. So as we approach this summer and close out our inaugural year, I feel a great sense of pride for the ways in which our parent community has stepped up for Endeavor. In addition, I'm happy to say that I still feel that same hope and excitement I remember from last summer. Most of all, I am truly grateful for the leadership of the Endeavor Board, for the vision of the founders of this school, for the talents and dedication of our teachers, for the wonderful friendships we have formed, and for the honor the PAWS membership bestowed upon me to serve as president during this first year. - All the best, John"

ESC Student Art
Show 2015

April 28, 5-7 p.m.:
Art Show Reception,
Grades K-3

April 30, 5-7 p.m.,
Art Show Reception,
Grades 4-8

**May 1, 6:30-9:30
p.m.:**
Middle School Dance



Schoola Donation Drive

Thank you for your donations during last month's Schoola Clothing Donation Drive!

Schoola will offer these items for sale nationwide on their website, and Endeavor will receive 40% of all proceeds! Remember, you can donate gently-used clothing throughout the year to Schoola and earn money for our school!

Visit their website to order donation bags - it's easy!

[Learn how Schoola works.](#)

As we enter the final quarter of Endeavor's 7th school year, the inaugural year of our beautiful new building, we can again declare success.

Sculptor and teaching artist, Bob Doster will be visiting ECS the second week of April. With over 50 years of experience and having worked with nearly 150,000 students of all ages, Bob will collaborate with our students to create a one-of-a-kind legacy monument on site that will be dedicated to the founding families of Endeavor Charter School.

Together with our organization's Cultural Arts Committee and the Endeavor Fine Arts Team, PAWS is honored and excited to fund this extraordinary \$7k project as a result of the generous monetary support throughout the year provided by our parent community. Thank you all so very much.

Upon completion, this brilliant masterpiece will properly serve our new campus by acknowledging the original foundation on which Endeavor was built and continues to thrive - a tribute to the secret of true success.

Indy Harris, PAWS President 2014/15

[VISIT BOB DOSTER'S WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS TALENTED ARTIST](#)



News

PAWS Cultural Arts

Bob Doster, Sculptor and Teaching Artist, April 6-10

Bob Doster, a metal sculptor from South Carolina, will be working with our students to create a beautiful metal sculpture for our new building. Students will be designing their own silhouette style portrait that they will trace onto steel and have the opportunity to use a plasma cutter to cut out their



Join Us at the Next Common Grounds Meeting

Tuesday, April 7,
between 8:45 a.m.
and 9:45 a.m. in the
Multipurpose Room

These meetings offer the advantage to further connect with the Endeavor community by informing you of upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and general information concerning all things ECS! Coffee and donuts will be served. Hope to see you there!



Apr. 7 is Giving Tree Donation Day

Your donations earned our school a \$750 monetary reward from The Giving Tree this year!

designs. We are really excited to have Mr. Doster teach us all about the unique art of sculpting in metal.

All students should wear closed-toe shoes and blue jeans to ensure their safety while using the plasma cutter with our artist-in-residence. No skinny jeans; regular old blue jeans covering feet. Closed-toe shoes, no flats or Toms. Tennis shoes or any leather shoe would be best.

Students should dress like this anytime they have Fine Arts class or until they have cut out their designs. Students can also bring a change of clothes with them and change at the beginning of Fine Arts.

We are in need of a few volunteers to assist Bob in working with our students. [Click here to sign up](#) and take part in this special event!



2015 Student Art Show, April 27-30

Endeavor's amazing Fine Arts Team and PAWS Cultural Arts Committee is proud to present the 2015 Annual Student Art Show! Come and see your child's creativity that has been taking place throughout the school year!

There will be painting stations, a selfie table, a post-it station, photo booth and more to explore. Prizes will also be given

to winning artists! Please make plans to join us in the Multi-Purpose Room to celebrate this integral component of your child's educational experience here at Endeavor. An evening reception for parents will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 5pm and 7pm.

(Due to parking and space challenges, we are asking grade K-3 parents to come Tuesday evening and grade 4-8 parents to come Thursday evening. If you have multiple grade children, please feel free to choose the evening that works best for your family).

Passive Fundraising - Pics and Box Tops

Nicole McGrath & Shannon Eddleman

Picture Day - April 23

Spring picture day is right around the corner. Strawbridge's will be back on April 23 for spring individual pictures and classroom group photos. Proofs will be sent home for your choosing. Please be on the look out for picture packets in the coming weeks. Please note photos are optional, just return the photos if you choose not to keep them. Thank you again for supporting PAWS!



Box Tops for Education

Thank you for continuing to send in Box Tops. The wonderful ladies who sort and count thousands of these ask if you can please watch for expired dates and to please trim them. It truly makes the tedious process go much faster for them. Also, remember to put your teacher's name on the baggie so we can continue to keep track of totals. Remember, the class with the most by June 1 will have a popsicle party. Currently Rafferty is in first

As you dive into spring cleaning, bring your unwanted, gently-used household items such as kitchenware, home decor and toys to the next Common Grounds meeting on Tuesday, April 7 for Q4 Giving Tree Donation Day!

PAWS President-Elect, Susan White will collect your donations and deliver them to The Giving Tree on behalf of Endeavor Charter School. Every donation credit contributes to a monetary donation to ECS from The Giving Tree! All donations are tax deductible!

Visit [Giving Tree's website](#) for information regarding acceptable items for donation. The Giving Tree is located at 839 South Main Street, Wake Forest.



PAWS Wants YOU!

Would you be interested in honoring our organization by serving as one of the following officers on

place, Johnson second and Douglas third.



Terracycle Brigade

Celebrate Earth Day by turning Trash into Cash with the Terracycle Brigade! Terracycle will pay Endeavor for specific items that would usually wind up in a landfill and give them new life! [Find the complete list of items on the ECS website.](#)

To help motivate students to collect these items and earn ECS more money, we are giving away prizes! The homeroom on each hall with the largest

collections will win POPSICLE parties and each student who turns in recycling will be entered into a raffle for three individual Terracycle prizes!!

Please collect your items at home and bring them to the morning carpool drop off on April 22 or 23 in a bag labeled with your child's homeroom teacher. They will fill out their raffle ticket when they drop off their items.

Winners will be announced once we have counted all the items. Please do not bring your items to school except on the collection days or they will not count!!

We look forward to earning lots of CASH for your TRASH! Questions can be directed to [Crystal Johnson](#).

Boosterthon Fun Run

Christina Cermin

We're raising funds for the Pride Athletic Program!

The Boosterthon Fun Run program is a healthy alternative to traditional product sales that raises much-needed funds for our school and over 1,400 others across America. The Boosterthon program also promotes three specific values during the fun-filled experience: Fitness, Leadership, and Character.



This year's character theme is ROCK'N TOWN LIVE, a music festival theme all about COMMUNITY! Students will learn five ways to make their community rock where they live and play.

Every student participates in the Fun Run, regardless of pledges raised. Plus, they receive six daily character stickers and have access to Boosterthon's world-class character resources. Parents, you must register your student on funrun.com in order for them to run. Just click the "Parent Permission Box." Your student will receive a FREE gift just for registering.

We will kick off the program with a PEP Rally on April 7 and the Fun Run will take place on April 16. Remember to enter your student's pledges on funrun.com, a safe and secure website that also allows you to watch the character lessons students learn every day.

More information will come home with your child prior to the event. This is the major fundraising event for the year! Thanks in advance for supporting

the 2015-16 Executive Board?

President-Elect, Treasurer, VP Fundraising, VP Volunteers & Communications

Join the PAWS team and make a positive difference at your child's school!

Those interested are invited to [contact Lana Aberant](#) of the PAWS Nominating Committee via email.



Cafe Days Update

The Café Days team is opening a special ordering window for those interested in purchasing PDQ lunches on the recently converted "snow make up days" this quarter. Ordering for 4/17 and 6/5 will be open from April 1 - April 8. Please submit all orders and payments before the deadline.

Café Days is in need of volunteers to help serve lunch this quarter. Please consider giving an hour of your time. [Sign up today!](#)

The PRIDE.

Enrichment Update

Lara Rice

Can you believe that 4th quarter is here already?! It is time to sign up for 4th quarter after-school enrichment classes.

Registration will end Friday, April 2 and classes will begin the week of April 6. We are so fortunate to have many organizations offering classes to our students this quarter: TGA Premier Youth Tennis and Golf, KidzArt, Club Scientific, Biricks4Kidz, CC&Dance Co., Girls Talk of Chatam, The Artful Mind, Mad Science, Innovative Martial Arts Academy and Triangle Chess Inc.

Several of our ECS teachers will be instructing classes that they are passionate about: Ms. Brooks will be training students to run a 5K, Mrs. Clark will be teaching a track & field class, Ms. Larkin will be heading up a soccer class and Ms. Comstock is leading two fun fitness classes.

We are very excited to host all of these after-school enrichment opportunities here at ECS! Email [Lara Rice](mailto:Lara.Rice@ecsc.org) with any questions.

From 4th Grade Teacher Mrs. Cindy Landwehr

ECS Families,

After 29 years of teaching, I have decided that this is the year for me to retire. I have taught in 3 states, 5 different school systems, and 7 different buildings. These buildings included a mobile classroom, a smoky teachers' lounge that was cleaned out over a weekend, a rolling cart, a gymnasium stage, two buildings so old they were torn down, and I'm fortunate enough to be ending with a brand new building. All grade levels (K-6) and all subjects were taught during these years.

I have met so many incredible people and have had many wonderful experiences during my career. It truly has been a rewarding career and I will miss the day-to-day interaction with the students, but now I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life. This chapter will include more time for traveling, gardening, biking, hiking, and spending with my family, especially my new grandchild. I also plan to volunteer and eventually substitute teach here at Endeavor, so I look forward to keeping in touch with this community.

Thanks for being part of my journey.

Mrs. Cindy Landwehr

Editor's Note

Please send newsletter submissions to me at chelewalker@att.net no later than the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's PawPrint. Text may be sent in Word (.doc) format, and pictures in JPG format.

Michele Walker



www.theproducebox.com

Produce Box Winner!

Congratulations to Crystal Johnson for winning a special prize from The Produce Box! Crystal's name was drawn from among other ECS families who joined during the month of March. She will receive a \$25 credit that can be applied towards any purchase of N.C. farm-fresh fruits, veggies and more offered by The Produce Box! Special thanks to all who placed membership on behalf of Endeavor!

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