



Volume 7, Issue 7

February 2015

State of the Den

Dear Endeavor Families,

I told The Board at the last meeting that I will be retiring at the end of this, the seventh year of my position as Director of the school. I am writing today to officially convey this decision to you, the families that make Endeavor.



It does not feel that long ago that three of us got together to plan a charter, based on what classroom teachers saw as essential to educating students in a more experiential academic climate. At that time, North Carolina maintained a cap of 100 charters, so the competition was fierce to get one of the last two charters. The three of us worked hard, using our combined years in education, to create a better plan. The state charter school committee believed in our vision, and we were granted one of the last charters. Since the opening I have enjoyed my tenure as Director; Even in the challenging times, I have always been inspired and supported by a talented staff, hard working students, a dedicated Board of Directors, and the best families in Wake County! All of these assets remain.

The school has begun planning for the transition to a new Director, and a committee will be looking in and outside the program for the person best suited to lead the school. I have complete faith that this group will be successful in this major initiative. I'm confident I will leave knowing the school is in great hands that will ensure the Endeavor vision that came to life in 2008 is not diminished, but continues to grow.

Thank you for your support over the years, without which this job would not be the joy that it is.

See you in the lanes,
Steve



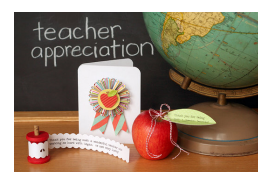
Upcoming Events

Feb. 9:
7 p.m., Board Meeting, MPR

Feb. 13:
Early Release Day

Feb. 23-27:
Teacher Appreciation Week

March 4-5:
Terracycle "Trash 4 Cash" Brigade



Teacher Appreciation Week

A Message From Our PAWS President



Mrs. Cotton helped this kindergarten reclaim a faint smile for her first school picture

It was my 4th grade year at Everetts Elementary School in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. I had landed the lead role of the evil witch-stepmother in our spring play, *Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs*. It was the most demanding part of the production. My character was in almost every scene, and there were long monologues to memorize. Fortunately, the Everetts Fine Arts teacher had selected the right person for the job.

On an April Friday evening in the school's "cafegymatorium," I brought the house down with my performance. For me however, the curtain call was the night's defining moment. Tremendous applause erupted as I graced the stage for my final bow. My eyes immediately met with those of my former kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Cotton. She had secured a front row

seat, which made it easy for her to initiate a monumental standing ovation in my honor. Mrs. Cotton loved me.

My mother is ready at any given moment to share with anyone who will listen the story of the walk she and Mrs. Cotton took around the school track to discuss ...me. "I swear, Mrs. Francis, Indy is 6 years old going on 30!" Mrs. Cotton knew me.

Just two hours before the picture above was taken, this "6-going-on-30" year old was having an emotional breakdown over her inability to properly hold scissors. I remember Mrs. Cotton's exact words because they were just what I needed to hear: "Indy, you can do this -- and I'm not just saying you can do this, I'm saying *YOU* can do this." Allowing a student to give up wasn't in her repertoire. She knew I would be able to get a good grab on those dang scissors if I would just try a little harder. That's why she was so proud of me years later at the play -- Mrs. Cotton knew I had given my best that night. She believed in me.

"Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives." - Andy Rooney

This quote is featured on the dedication page in last year's school cookbook, *The Mane Course*, in honor of Carol Veltri. Ms. Veltri joined the ECS 5th grade team in 2011. I never had the pleasure of meeting her, but I do recall the one and only time I saw her. It was for one brief, impactful moment during morning carpool in the fall of 2012.

As I was dropping off my girls, I noticed a woman walking into school using a cane and wearing a headscarf. She was frail and pale in color. My oldest, leaning forward from the backseat said, "Oh, Mommy...that's Ms. Veltri." One by one, several students ran to hug their beloved teacher, slowing her already compromised gate toward the front entrance. It was an image to behold. I was later informed that Carol would often visit her class during the weeks she received chemotherapy treatments -- a habit she continued until

Teacher Appreciation Week is Feb. 23-27!

Let's have fun recognizing our wonderful ECS teachers in so many special ways throughout that week!

More info regarding suggested treats/gifts to come soon!



www.theproducebox.com

Produce Box

Join [The Produce Box](#) in March, and ECS will get \$10 for each new member!

Enjoy having farm-fresh N.C. fruits, veggies and more delivered right to your home!

Be on the lookout for flyers containing more info in your child's Tuesday folder!



the end of a courageous battle with cancer on December 8, 2012. Endeavor students witnessed her covet every moment she shared with them, and it is my strong belief that they were fully aware of the motivation they provided to her. Ms. Veltri was the ultimate inspiration to her students.

Teachers know and love their students. Teachers believe in their students and inspire them to give their best. For these reasons, students remember their teachers.

Help your child to every day appreciate the connection they have with their teacher. For this reason, teachers remember their students.

Teacher Appreciation Week is February 23-27.

Indy Harris, PAWS President 2014-15

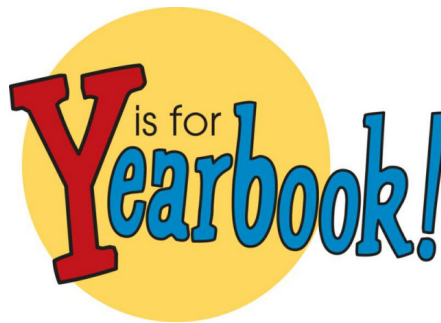
News

It's Almost Yearbook Time!

Leslie Bryant

Woo hoo! Yearbook is in full swing and we need your help!

Calling all parents, teachers and students who have been behind the camera at some point this year, we are looking for your photos to include in the Endeavor Yearbook. This year's edition will be on sale for \$26 coming soon!



Eighth grade parents, it is time to shine the light on your special student by [ordering a tribute page](#) for them in the yearbook. This page can include a special family message and photos of your precious darling. Help them leave their mark as they prepare to graduate Middle School.

Business Owners/Operators, Entrepreneurs and Service Providers -- this will be our first ever platform for you to get the word out! This year for the very first time we will allow you to [purchase advertisement space](#) in the yearbook for Endeavor families only. Let our Endeavor community see what you have to offer and watch your business grow.

For any questions or comments please contact the Yearbook Committee by emailing [Leslie Bryant](#).

See you between the pages!

Blasting Off to Space Camp!

Thank you to everyone that has purchased Scrip gift cards through the 6th grade. This will be year round fundraiser in the hopes of off setting the cost of the field trip for all future 6th graders.

Do you shop regularly at a particular store? Then think about purchasing a gift card through our 6th grade account online and pre-paying for that



Terracycle "Trash 4 Cash" Brigade

The next Terracycle "Trash 4 Cash" Brigade has been moved up to March 4 and 5! [Click here](#) to download an updated flyer! Now accepting all foil-lined energy bar wrappers!



Cafe Days Call for Volunteers

Don't forget to sign up as a Cafe Days volunteer for Q3! Donating an hour of your time this quarter to help serve lunch to ECS students in support of PAWS' most profitable fundraising effort will be so appreciated!!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP NOW.](#)



Tennis Balls Needed

The front office is in constant need of

particular shop. Know of birthdays or gifts you will need? Get online and order!

All orders for the month of February will be placed on Feb. 15. All checks need to be in the office no later than Feb. 16. Remember, go to www.shopwithscrip.com and click sign in, enter our code: 822869A142LL2, and then start shopping!

In two orders we were able to raise over \$300. Imagine what we could raise using scrip the ENTIRE school year! Feel free to pass the information along to friends, family and neighbors!

PAWS Open Board Positions for 2015-16

Believe it or not, the 2015/16 school year is right around the corner! Listed below are the available seats for new officers to serve on the PAWS Executive Board next year. Interested parties should contact PAWS Nominating Committee member, Lana Aberant, [via email](#).



President-Elect: This officer shall assist and shadow the President in preparation to assume the role of President the following school year. He/she shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to serve.

Treasurer: This officer oversees and assumes custody of all PAWS funds; maintaining all accounting books and records (background in finance preferred).

Vice President of Volunteers & Communications: This officer oversees the functions of his/her following committees – School Directory, PawPrint, Yearbook, Webpage Manager, Family Carpool Coordinator, Room Parent Coordinator and New Family Coordinator.

Vice President of Fundraising: This officer oversees the functions of his/her following committees - Annual Membership Drive, Passive Fundraising, Café Days, School Pictures, and 6th Grade Space Camp Field Trip.

The election for the 2015/16 school year will be held Thursday, May 7 at the PAWS Executive Board Meeting.

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

used tennis balls to adorn the the bottoms of classroom desk and chair legs. Local tennis clubs will hand buckets of these over to us for free. Consider contacting or visiting any of the below tennis clubs to pick some up and aid in protecting our school's beautiful floors!

Seven Oaks Tennis Club

[2500 Howard Road
Raleigh, NC 27613](#)
(919) 848-9928

The Raleigh Racquet Club

[5516 Falls of Neuse
Road Raleigh, NC
27609](#)
(919) 876-0565

Greystone Swim & Racquet Club

[1115 Sawmill Road
Raleigh, NC 27615](#)
(919) 848-8554

[Forward this email](#)



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