



Volume 7, Issue 8

March 2015

## State of the Den

My allergies keep reminding me that it's almost Spring, though the part of my brain not drowning in, let's say, *congestion*, can't believe we are already contemplating warm weather. Which only means it won't belong before we are all complaining about the heat and remembering those delightful snowy days in a Hallmark card sort of nostalgia. Such is life. Never fear, here's a reminder of days only a Polar Bear in a Snuggie could appreciate: Make Up Days! Come on, you knew it had to happen, right?



We believe we have an obligation to protect the spring break days and summer vacation days since so many of you made your plans to be away then when school is out, just as we asked you to do. Thank you for that (and please remember to be here the first day of school next year – never too early for that reminder!). To use those days now would feel like a betrayal of your trust, so we had to be creative and find another route. Of course, we also know we have the more important academic obligation to provide more teaching time. After much consideration and consultation, we arrived at a solution we believe meets both obligations:

1. April 17 will become a full day
2. June 5 will become a full day
3. June 11 will become a full day
4. June 12 will become an early release day

We hope these days – especially when compared with the alternative of using spring break or extending the school year – will help ease the pain of losing half days and a teacher work day. Thank you for your patience as we worked out this plan.

See you in the too-hot-for-an-air-conditioned-camel lanes,  
Steve



### Upcoming Events

**Mar. 1-15:**  
Cafe Days Ordering Window

**Mar. 9, 7 p.m.:**  
Board Meeting, MPR

**Mar. 9-13:**  
School Drive

**Mar. 16:**  
Track Out

**Mar. 17:**  
Spirit Skate with Olaf at United Skates of America

**Mar. 31:**  
Q4 Begins

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



## A Message From Our PAWS President

*"May you have all the happiness and luck that life can hold, and at the end of all your rainbows may you find a pot of gold!" - Irish Blessing used often in toasts on St. Patrick's Day*

So, get this –

Endeavor Charter School received nearly 1,350 applications from families competing for only 35 available seats in this year's admissions lottery.

Wow!

There is only one logical assumption to make with regard to those numbers – our school is HOT!

But...of course it is.

We have a beautiful new facility, innovative teachers, enthusiastic students, a remarkable administration and a stellar reputation.

ECS is the place to be.

One member of our aforementioned "remarkable" administration is co-founder and admissions coordinator, Maija McAdams. Maija organizes and officiates the lottery process every year. Aside from enduring the typical enormity of the overall task, it had to be bittersweet delivering good news to 35 expectant families while having to deliver the opposite to the remaining disappointed 1,315 a few weeks ago.



Perhaps that is why Maija and her husband decided to throw their cares out the window in the midst of last month's "Snowpocalypse." It is my theory that her intense week at work combined with an uninvited residential power outage prompted the impulsive hurling of luggage and children into the family SUV. They set the GPS for Great Wolf Lodge in Charlotte. I hijacked the photographic proof on the left from Maija's Facebook timeline.

The McAdams party of four had a blast and returned safely to a warm home with restored power. Maija's focus now moves to the long waitlists, possibly offering another chance to deliver good news to a few more hopeful families.

If you are reading this article, it is assumed you were at one time among those with tightly crossed fingers wishing for your child's number to be drawn. You likely celebrated with your family the good news that came your way when all was said and done (*maybe you went to Great Wolf Lodge*).



### Schoola Donation Drive

**BEFORE YOU GO TO GOODWILL!** Bag up your gently-used children's clothing and drop them by the MPR anytime during the week of March 9-13 for Endeavor's first Schoola Donation Drive!! This is yet another amazing school-funding, community-building program initiated by a former charter school founder! [Click here to learn more about Schoola.](#)

*Note: Info stickers mentioned in the Tuesday folder flyers will be affixed to all donation bags upon drop-off.*



[www.theproducebox.com](http://www.theproducebox.com)

### Produce Box

Join [The Produce Box](#) in March – earn money for ECS.

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

As lottery winners, we should honor that moment of magnificent fortune with ongoing gratitude. Numerous opportunities to do so are offered throughout the year – [cover a teacher's lunch hour](#), sign up to serve as a field trip chaperone or test proctor, [donate to annual fundraisers](#), merge together in thought and action to represent ECS in the most positive way. Anything and everything you abundantly give will contribute to the continued success of your child's exceptional school.

As time passes, the recognition of good fortune can be easily lost.

Our children are so lucky to be Endeavor Charter School students.

By showing our appreciation accordingly, a "pot of gold" will be shared by all.

*Indy Harris, PAWS President 2014-15*

## News

### Message From the Board of Directors

Endeavor Families,

In last month's Pawprint, Steve let all of you know what he had communicated earlier to both the staff and the Board – that he is planning to retire at the conclusion of this school year. Our school would not be the success it is without Steve – his leadership, his vision, and maybe most importantly his presence. He is leaving big shoes to fill, and as a Board we knew we needed to create a process that would allow us to find the best candidate we can find to maintain our early success and build on our strengths as a school.

My first step after talking with Steve was to reach out to our contacts and the NC Dept. of Public Instruction. They had great recommendations for how to structure an action plan. We have created a collaborative team composed of both staff members and the Board and have worked to identify the characteristics and skills we want in our next director and are now working together to identify and hire the best candidate. At our February Board meeting, we reviewed the process and timeline we will use to thoroughly review candidates and make a hiring decision between now and the beginning of May. Our job posting went live in February, and we already have several dozen applicants. I am confident we will find a fantastic new director for Endeavor.

I invite each of you to please [reach out to me](#) or any other Board member with your thoughts and comments. Your input in this process is welcome and invaluable.

Thanks again for all you do as volunteers within our school, and thanks in advance for all your help as we begin this time of transition at Endeavor.

Regards,  
Kevin Myers - Chair, Board of Directors

### Boosters News

**Have some SKATE PARTY fun with OLAF over track-out!**

home!

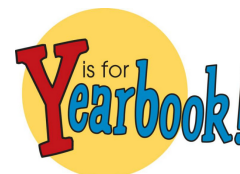
Our school will earn \$10 for every new membership placed with The Produce Box during the month of March! [Click here to sign up today](#) using code: ENDEAVOR



### Lunch Duty Sign Up

#### Lunch Duty Sign-up

[Click here to find your teacher's lunch duty sign-up](#) in a flash using the new easy-access page on the ECS website!



#### Order Those Yearbooks Now!

**DEADLINE EXTENSION:** Ad purchases and 8th grade tribute submissions are due no later than Friday, March 13 at 3 p.m.

Order your 2014-15 ECS Yearbook online before March 19 using paycode 72312.

[Click here for online](#)

When: Tues March 17  
 Where: United Skates of America  
 2901 Trawick Rd  
 Raleigh NC 27604  
 Cost: \$10, includes admission/skate rental/slice of pizza and drink

### Boosterthon

Endeavor Pride Boosters is pleased to announce that Boosterthon Fun Run is coming to our campus in April!

The Boosterthon Fun Run experience combines a fun fitness event, an interactive character program, and a school fundraiser. It's all wrapped up in an unforgettable experience that is fun for students and hassle-free for schools.



### Enrichment Update

*Lara Rice*

Fourth Quarter is right around the corner, which means that it's time to register for before-school care and after-school enrichment classes.

We are excited to offer 21 different after-school classes this quarter! Classes will begin the week of April 6 and will end the week of May 25.

We will be welcoming back a few of our most popular classes: the 5K Run Club led by our own Ashley Brooks, Karate instructed by Jacob Bauldree from Innovative Martial Arts, and tennis and golf classes taught by TGA.

We have some new organizations joining the ECS enrichment program this quarter. CC & Dance Co. will be teaching a jazz/hip-hop/musical theater dance class and Mad Science will be hosting a class called NASA: Academy of Future Space Explorers.

Please take a look at the [complete list of after-school classes](#) on the ECS website.

Registration runs from March 9 through April 2. [Email Lara Rice](#) with any questions.

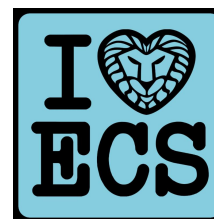
### Cafe Days Update

We are excited that the ordering window is NOW OPEN for 4th Quarter Café Days. Please submit your orders and payment by the March 15 deadline.

We have been fortunate enough to have wonderful vendors that react to our inclement weather closings and honor our order cancellations. It is for this reason we have been able to issue credits for all missed café days. These credits have been posted to parent accounts and will be automatically applied to your account balance when you place your 4th Quarter order. If you encounter any problems when ordering, [please contact us](#).

[ordering and ad/tribute submission info.](#)

Do you have classroom or field trip pictures to share with our yearbook committee? [Please email them to Robyn Thomson.](#)



**Follow Us on Facebook**

STAY CONNECTED!

Get Endeavor info and updates by following ["ECS Families"](#) on Facebook!



**"PUSH THE ENVELOPE 2015" Continues Through March 11**

Stop in ASAP to claim your envelope! ECS teachers and students hope to see the donation wall bare in exchange for a possible 54K raised to fund technology

It's never too early to think about how you can help at ECS next quarter. Café Days has many volunteer opportunities available in the 4th Quarter. We have tailored our needs to fit around many class lunch schedules. [Sign up today!](#)

improvements  
throughout our  
school!

[Find more info here.](#)

## Editor's Note

Please send newsletter submissions to me at [chelewalker@att.net](mailto: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

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