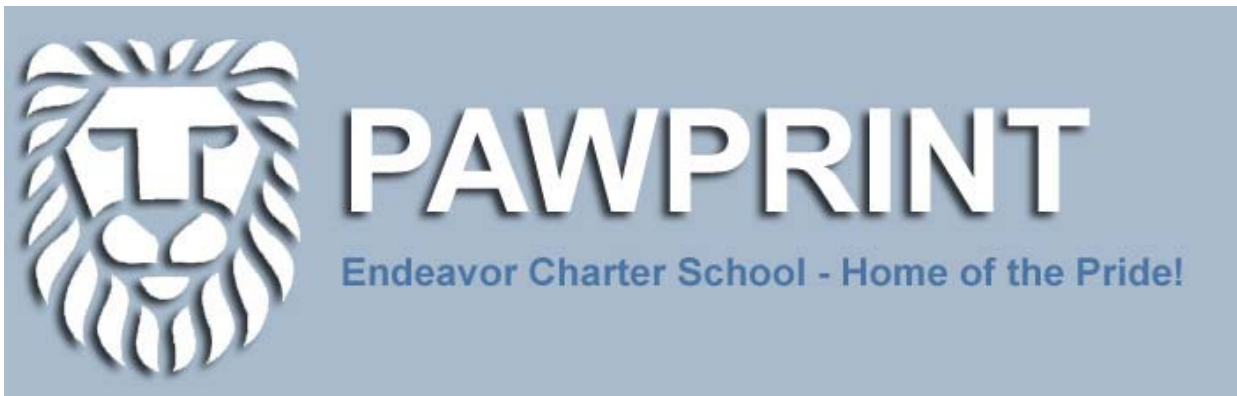




Volume 7, Issue 10

May 2015

State of the Den

Time flies when you teach for 44 years! I knew education was going to be my fate since a rare moment of clarity in my younger years. I suddenly understood that the thing I thought I was ready to leave behind was the thing I had been subconsciously running toward: a career in education. I realized, for me, school had always been a shelter from storms and food for a starving mind; it was friends my age and endless days of recess fun; it was recognition and nurturing of talents that were buried under layers of neglect; it was a refuge from noise and distress. No matter how many obstacles I had encountered there -- bullies, mean teachers, acne, broken heart, not being the best at whatever I thought I had to excel at in that fleeting moment, more acne, difficult classes (when will I ever use that?), not having the latest and most expensive clothes or shoes or car -- I could go on, but this list is starting to simultaneously depress and bore me -- school was hope. I have never really left school behind since the age of six. Till now.



This job is not for the dinosaur I increasingly feel like physically and mentally every time I get exasperated with social media, bad manners, ingratitude, apathy, and entitled attitudes. Don't get me wrong, I've had it great here at Endeavor! It is filled with fantastic children; supportive, generous families; and amazingly talented teachers. I have never worked in a more fulfilling environment; it has too many attributes to quantify in any significant manner.

But, I'll try anyhow. So here it is, my Top Ten List of Great Endeavor Memories:

10. Washing old, discarded school furniture in 100+ degree temperatures with new families -- it was a real bonding, ownership moment.

9. Seeing tears of joy and relief in the eyes of the mother whose child was the first lottery number pulled in our inaugural lottery.

8. Standing on a red carpet with my two co-founders, welcoming the first students into our school that had opened on time despite all odds.

7. The first kindergarten play in the old building -it was one of those goose



Upcoming Events

May 11, 7 p.m.:
Board Meeting, MPR

May 14-16:
Charlotte's Web

May 19:
Band Concert

May 21, 6 p.m.:
Sports Banquet,
Bayleaf Baptist
Church Fellowship
Hall

May 22:
Early Release

May 25:
Memorial Day
Holiday

May 26, 7 p.m.:
Chorus Concert,
MPR

June 3-4:
Terracycle "Trash 4
Cash" Brigade

June 9:
New Family
Orientation

June 10,

bump, now it's a real school moments that brought tears to our eyes.

6. Seeing the first of my grandchildren enter the school -he is in high school now, but there are still two here and one to come.

5. Seeing our first goal scored by our first school team.

4. Watching our beautiful new building rise from the mud and open on time (tied with leaving the old building!).

3. Our first graduation ceremony.

2. Seeing the fall herd of kindergartners arriving with backpacks that seem as big as they are.

1. Today hearing a first grader, asked in his drama class to say what color he feels like, reply "I feel blue because Mr. McAdams won't be my principal next year."

I do too, at such precious moments. But I know the school is in great shape academically and financially, and that it is in the hands of those who love it as much as I do.

See you in the lanes –when I pick up one of my grandchildren in carpool,

Steve

The Top 10 Things You Didn't Know About Steve McAdams

Christi Whiteside

10. His favorite author is J.R.R. Tolkein.

9. He loves Disney World.

8. He once collected Batmobiles and comic books.

7. He is a fantastic gardener and landscaper.

6. He loves to travel and has been to Australia, Greece, Wales, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Amsterdam, and France.

5. Cookie cake is his favorite kind of cake.

4. He loves to build sandcastles at the beach.

3. He taught Mr. Ezzell 9th grade English and coached his soccer team.

2. While in high school, he was in a full body cast for three months after being hit by a car.

1. He loves everything about zombies.



A Message From Our PAWS President

*"Try not to become a man of success,
but rather try to become a man of value."
- Albert Einstein*

Dedicated to Endeavor Charter School's founder and director who can

**Kona Ice for
Students and Staff**

June 11:
Celebration of
Learning

8th Grade
Graduation, MPR

June 12:
Last Day of School,
Early Release



**Kona Ice for All
Students and Staff!**

Is there a better way to celebrate an awesome school year?! PAWS is bringing Kona Ice to our campus Wed., June 10. Every student and staff member will enjoy a sno-cone on us for a job well done!



Legacy Sculpture

Our legacy sculpture is on the way! Metal sculpture artist, Bob Doster will be delivering our beautiful one-of-a-

rightfully claim to have achieved both during his 44-year lifework in education, Mr. Steve McAdams.



Eighth-grader Andrew Protz speaks to this younger crowd using a universal language

"What would you say is your greatest accomplishment so far?" ... "What do you most like about yourself?" ... "What do you most dislike about yourself?" ... "What are you most afraid of?"...

The drive home from school this particular Wednesday afternoon was not offering up the typical light and fluffy post-game conversation. My sixth-grade daughter had been assigned to write a biographical poem, and I had been tagged as her muse. For the next 15 minutes I attempted to answer every loaded question with deliberate honesty, figuring I could appreciate it as impromptu psychotherapy.

"What are you most afraid of?" - This one surprisingly stumped me for a minute or two.

"What am I MOST afraid of?" I started mumbling through the obvious stock answers; heights, spiders, snakes, drowning, cannibals, fair rides, becoming my mother. I needed to dig deeper.

"I would say that I'm most afraid of no longer feeling valued." Yes, Allena found my answer to be incredibly dull. But like I said, I was determined for whatever reason to be honest.

I believe this is a fear we all ultimately share but have a hard time admitting because it sounds a tad narcissistic. The word "value" holds a different meaning for everyone, but the need for it is vital to the pursuit of health and happiness. Therefore, the possibility of someday losing the feeling of self-worth can seem to me frightfully unnerving. We all need and deserve to feel valued. Admitting to this truth can provide ideal comfort.

The image above was taken at this year's Boosterthon Middle School Color Run. Don't worry, this isn't another fundraising plug. But I will say, it was a super spectacular event. The moment captured in this photograph is one of definitive relevance to the significance of value.

As our middle school students were taking their final laps, a few began to high-five the kindergartners and first graders who had lined up along the curb to catch some of the action. **It is important to note that the high-five is known universally as the language for mutual recognition of value.** Within seconds, *ALL* "too cool for school" upper classmen were eager participants. Little hands emerged from the line hungry for the spontaneous attention from their rock star school mates. One by one, validation was

kind masterpiece within the next two weeks. What an awesome way to distinguish our first year on this beautiful new campus!



Don't Stop! Passive Fundraising

KEEP COLLECTING THAT TRASH! The next Terracycle "Trash 4 Cash" Brigade will be Wed. and Thur., June 3-4 during morning carpool! Students will receive one raffle entry with every bag they donate for the chance to win a special prize from [Terracycle](#)!

KEEP SENDING IN THOSE BOXTOPS! Homerooms compete throughout the school year for an end-of-year prize, so be sure to label your bags with your child's name and homeroom teacher. A dropbox is located in the ECS lobby under the PAWS bulletin board. This year, the winning homeroom will enjoy a popsicle party!



readily exchanged between students who rarely receive the opportunity to interact. It was pure awesomeness.

We have enjoyed an amazing school year, and we have ourselves to thank for it. I want every parent, student, teacher and staff member to truly believe how valuable they are to our magnificent community. In turn, I wish for you *ALL* to value your Endeavor Charter School.

So...Endeavor family, line up to receive from me your proverbial high-five for a job well done. You donated your time, your money - heck, you even donated your trash! Every single one of you contributed to our success this year.

Pay it forward as we proceed - help to make others feel valued - [and never, ever leave a bro hangin'.](#)

Indy Harris, PAWS President

News

Thank You for Helping PAWS Support ECS in 2014-15

We have accomplished so much this year! With the generous support from our wonderful community, PAWS was able to support Endeavor Charter School in so many ways! Here are the highlights:

- \$5K paid toward two custom-built shade structures for the playground
- \$20K contributed to offset field trip costs for all grade level students
- \$10.5K paid toward multiple Cultural Arts events and workshops by talented artists and performers for all students to enjoy
- \$7.5K paid towards a one-of-a-kind metal legacy sculpture to mark the inaugural year on our new campus
- \$1K set aside for the development of a memorial garden in honor of Ms. Carol Veltri this fall



Thank you all so much for making this year remarkable!

Thank You Outgoing PAWS Board Members!

Bravo!



Huge thanks to all who served on the PAWS 2014-15 Executive Board -- including all officers, committee chairpersons and committee members. Your outstanding dedication and hard work contributed to another triumphant year at Endeavor Charter School!

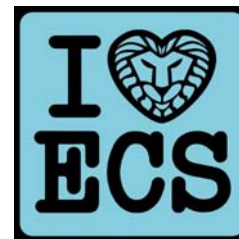
Special recognition and gratitude to the following officers for their exceptional service as they end their 2-year terms:

- Minh Graham, Treasurer



One-Way Private Bus Service from North Raleigh for 2015-16

There are several families signed up for private bus service next year who are looking to sublet their seat(s) in one direction or the other. If you are interested in this possibility, please [send an inquiry to Tamara Santana.](#)



Stay Connected With ECS

STAY CONNECTED THIS SUMMER!

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



Shop With Scrip!

Need some gift cards for end of year gifts?

- Terri Schaffer, VP Fundraising
- Shannon McGowan, VP Volunteers & Communications

Join us in honoring and welcoming 2015-16 PAWS President, Susan White and her newly elected officers as they look forward to serving our school next year!

The 2015-16 Executive Board will be formally introduced to the ECS community in the August PAWPRINT.



Charlotte's Web - May 14-16

The ECS Fine Arts Department is pleased to invite you to our inaugural theatrical production at our new home in Wake Forest. *Charlotte's Web* tickets [are available online now](#).

ECS 6th-8th graders will present the classic E.B White story of love, hope, and unlikely friendship between Wilbur the pig and Charlotte the spider. Join us in the ECS multipurpose room as we travel to the Zuckerman farm in this heartwarming story. Performances are May 14 and 15 at 7:00 pm and May 16 at 1:00 pm. The production is suitable for audiences ages 5 and up. Don't miss out on this exciting performance for the whole family!

Boosters Update

Christina Cernin

It was truly a great moment when just six years ago a dedicated group of parents formed the Endeavor Pride Boosters and brought sports to our middle school students. As I finish serving on this board, I'm proud of everything we, along with the administration and the generous support of our parents and volunteers, have accomplished:

- Creating a competitive Sports Program that served over 700 participant athletes in six sports
- Induction into the Triangle Middle School Conference
- School-wide Spirit with events like Spiritwear, SpiritNites, Athlete mentors, attendance at games, Boosterthon Fun Run
- Enhancing the attraction of prospective families to Endeavor Charter School

And this year especially, with the overwhelming support of the Boosterthon fundraiser, we are able to level/grade/maintain our athletic fields for competitive play in the Fall of 2015! We certainly could not have done this without the support of our wonderful ECS families!

SAVE THE DATE: The 6th Annual Sports Banquet will be held on Thur., May 21, at 6 p.m. at Bayleaf Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Invitations will be sent out to families of athletes via e-mail.

Cafe Days Update

The Cafe Days Team would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time this year! Your continued support guarantees the success of this wonderful hot lunch program whose proceeds benefit our teachers and students.



Cafe Days offers to any eager volunteer the perfect opportunity to expand their involvement at ECS! We are always in

Graduation? Father's Day? Or just need a reason to shop? Don't forget to SHOP WITH SCRIP and help the future 6th graders Blast OFF to Space Camp next spring!

It's simple go to the [website](#), sign in and put in our enrollment code: 822869A142LL2.

Please make sure to do any shopping before May 17 with cards being delivered in Tuesday folders right after Memorial Day! Thanks for supporting our future 6th graders and for helping this years 6th graders cut their total cost.



Enrichment Update

Thank you for supporting the Endeavor enrichment program! It has been a successful year and it has been wonderful watching the students enjoying their after-school classes. We will be planning another great quarter of enrichment classes during our summer track-out.

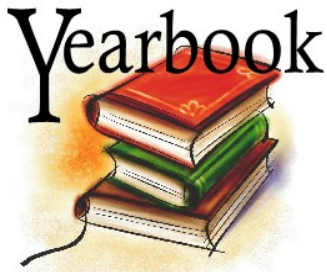
Fourth quarter enrichment classes will end the week of May 25.

The spring chorus concert is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m

-Lara Rice

need of extra hands to distribute food on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There are also committee positions available! Please contact committee chairperson, [Angie Isaac via email](#) if you would be interested in donating your time to PAWS' most profitable fundraising effort!

Note: Please be on the lookout for the 2015-16 first quarter ordering window to open a week or so before school starts! Have a great summer!



Yearbooks Update

Leslie Bryant

Did you forget to pre-order your ECS yearbook? There is a limited quantity of overstock copies available for purchase, but it is first-come-first-serve only, at \$30 per copy. Please [contact Leslie Bryant via email](#) to place your order.

Teachers and staff -- thank you so much for your participation in helping the Yearbook Staff gather pictures for the yearbook by using the flash drives your class was assigned. At this time would you please return all flash drives to the front office in the designated "Flash Drive Box." If you have added pictures to your drive there will be a special treat in it for you!! Thanks for all you do!

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

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