



# TRAILBLAZER

**May 18, 2017**

## ***Principally Speaking***

Forest Trail is one of six Eanes ISD schools that have been selected out of 727 public schools as leaders in high achievement for student success. These schools have been named to the 2016 Texas Honor Roll presented by Educational Results Partnership (ERP) and the Institute for Productivity in Education (IPE).

The 2016 Honor Roll recognizes public elementary, middle, and high schools that demonstrate consistently high levels of student academic achievement, improvement in achievement over time, and reduction in achievement gaps. For high schools, Honor Roll recognition includes high college readiness in students.

ERP has identified Honor Roll schools as having a common set of success factors including clear, specific learning objectives aligned to college and career readiness; evidence-based instructional practices; established system-wide mission of college and career readiness for all students; investing in human capital; maintaining data and assessment systems to monitor school and student performance; and deploying resources and guidance to support schools' efforts to prepare all students for college and career.

A full list of the Honor Roll schools and districts can be found at <http://edresults.org/HonorRoll/HonorRoll?State=TX>.

I am so proud of our students, staff and families for the collaborative efforts and the hard work which led to this achievement.

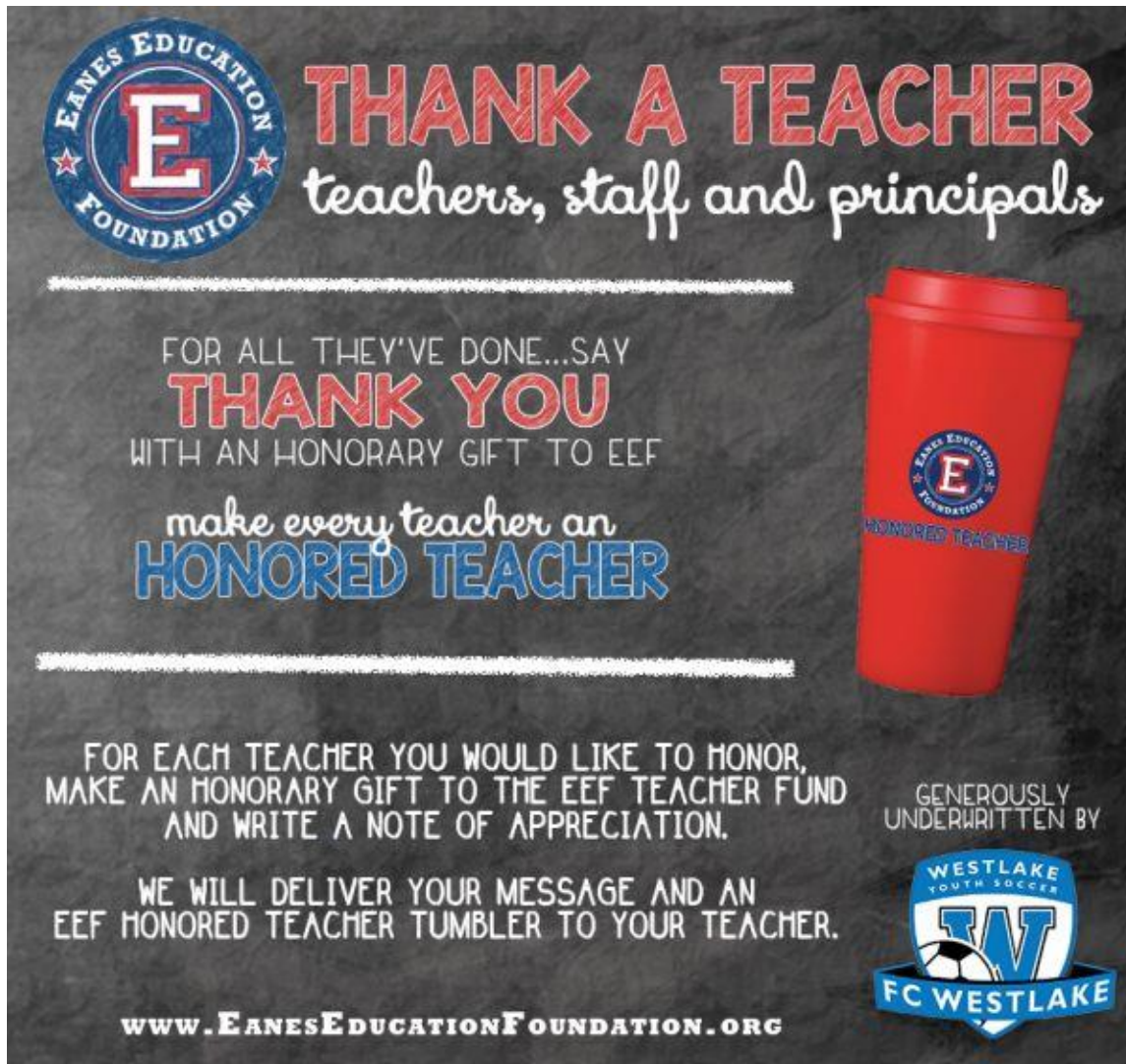
## ***Attention All 5<sup>th</sup> Graders!***

Emma Tyler, an eighth grader at West Ridge Middle School, has set out to assist our fifth graders making the transition to WRMS. For her Girl Scout Silver Award Project, she made a website for incoming sixth graders at West Ridge. The

website includes an interactive map, instructions for opening a locker, and advice from previous sixth graders about middle school. This is the link to the website:

<http://digityler.com/sixthgrade/>

## ***EEF Honor a Teacher***



The poster features a dark grey background with white and red text. At the top left is the EEF logo: a blue circle with a white 'E' in the center, surrounded by the words 'EANES EDUCATION FOUNDATION' and two stars. To the right of the logo, the text reads 'THANK A TEACHER' in large, red, block letters, followed by 'teachers, staff and principals' in a white, cursive font. Below this, a horizontal dashed line separates the text from the next section. The text continues: 'FOR ALL THEY'VE DONE...SAY' in white, 'THANK YOU' in large, red, block letters, and 'WITH AN HONORARY GIFT TO EEF' in white. Below that, 'make every teacher an' is written in white cursive, followed by 'HONORED TEACHER' in large, blue, block letters. Another horizontal dashed line follows. The bottom section contains the text: 'FOR EACH TEACHER YOU WOULD LIKE TO HONOR, MAKE AN HONORARY GIFT TO THE EEF TEACHER FUND AND WRITE A NOTE OF APPRECIATION.' in white. Below this, it says 'WE WILL DELIVER YOUR MESSAGE AND AN EEF HONORED TEACHER TUMBLER TO YOUR TEACHER.' in white. At the bottom left is the website 'WWW.EANESFOUNDATION.ORG' in white. On the right side, there is a red tumbler with the EEF logo and 'HONORED TEACHER' written on it. Below the tumbler, it says 'GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY' in white, followed by the logo for 'WESTLAKE YOUTH SOCCER FC WESTLAKE', which features a blue shield with a white 'W' and a soccer ball.

## ***Kindergarten Play Dates***

The EEF Kinder Club is bringing back summer play dates! Please help us spread the word to all incoming kindergarten families (class of 2030). This is a perfect time to start making new friends and meeting our fabulous Kinder teachers!

Invitations will be sent to the email addresses given at Kindergarten registration.

**Wednesday, June 14, at 5:30 PM**  
**Hat Creek Burgers (5902 Bee Cave Rd)**

**Wednesday, July 12, at 9:30 AM**  
**Lost Creek Park (Quaker Ridge and Lost Creek Blvd)**

**Wednesday, August 16, at 9:30 AM**  
**Lower Playground at Forest Trail Elementary**

We are also hosting a 'Boo Hoo Breakfast' on the first day of school. More details to follow with invitation.

**Monday, August 21, after drop-off until 10:00 AM**  
**Lost Creek Park (Quaker Ridge and Lost Creek Blvd)**

Thank you,  
EEF Teacher Fund co-chairs  
Robyn Gaskamp & Liz Seade

## ***Booster Club Corner***

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club>

### **New Funding Fulfillments for 2016-17**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club>

### **Classroom of the Future**

The FTE Booster Club Membership approved a proposal to supplement EISD bond monies already granted to four of FTE's five 2017-18 fifth grade classrooms as part of the "Classroom of the Future" initiative. We will allocate \$20,000 to fund one classroom to complete the fifth grade level's classroom renovations. These renovations were carefully-crafted choices made by EISD to modernize and enhance the learning environment with greater opportunities for collaboration, creative thought, and problem-solving. The opportunity for the Booster Club to fund the one classroom that would not have otherwise been renovated was a great example of the Booster Club's commitment to supplementing the needs of FTE that the District and State cannot. We are proud to be able to fund this initiative which will benefit all of FTE's children on their journeys at FTE.

### **Communication Screens**

The cafeteria and foyer communication screens have been installed just in time for our largest performance audiences of the year: the Show Choir performance and the Fifth Grade Graduation! We are thrilled to offer this enhancement to our

school and hope that it enriches events, performances, and general communication for years to come!

### **STEAM Carts**

The Booster Club has finalized its plans to fund STEAM carts for every grade level at FTE. Working closely with administration's recommendations, we will fund carts and supplies to ensure that all grades have three fully-functional STEAM carts by the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. This initiative has been a collaboration lasting for months and we are proud to bring this incredible advantage to our children's educational experience. STEAM carts enhance the application of many academic goals, with hands-on, real-time results. With this fulfillment, we partner with EISD in its goals as a "District of Innovation", excelling in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

Many thanks to the team of FTE and EISD staff, as well as the Booster Club Executive Board, who diligently worked through the options regarding these fulfillment initiatives to reach the best solution for our needs, with fiduciary attention to our donors and overall budget demands.

**It's Here! FTE Carnival is THIS SATURDAY, MAY 20TH~**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/just-for-fun>

The beloved FTE Carnival is almost here! Carnival is not a fundraiser for FTE, but rather one of the many initiatives that the Booster Club produces to encourage family time and a sense of school community.

Don't miss this year's new time later in the afternoon to allow for more families to attend after morning sports. The FTE Carnival is Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 1-4pm and it's fun for the whole family!

### **FAQ's:**

#### **How do I get there?**

Buy a wristband here:

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club>

Wristbands are on sale now through Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10pm.

#### **Pre-Purchase Prices**

\$25 wristband ages 6+

\$10 wristband ages 5 and under

\$15 wristbands for FTE staff children

#### **Day-of purchase prices:**

\$30 wristband ages 6+

\$10 wristband ages 5 and under  
\$15 wristbands for FTE staff children

A limited number of wristbands may be purchased at the event at a higher price. The event is held in the parking lot between the FTE field and Valley View Elementary.

### **How can I help?**

Volunteers aged 6th grade and up are needed to run the Midway games! Click to sign up for a quick and easy shift! : <http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club>. Youth aged 6th-12th grade receive a free wristband for their volunteer time!

### **Why come to the FTE Carnival?**

- ✓ Fun for the whole family!
- ✓ Face painters
- ✓ Midway games with prizes
- ✓ Westlake Youth Soccer running speed radar for soccer goal kicks
- ✓ Live entertainment including Chicken Dog, featuring rescued circus dogs, a scarlet macaw, a live accordion, juggling, unicycling, and lots of other circus skills

### **What will I eat and drink?**

Given the late afternoon timeframe there won't be food trucks serving a true lunch, however the following will be sold (cash only):

- ✓ Light snacks (candy, chips, granola bars)
- ✓ Cold water in our new FTE stainless water bottles
- ✓ Kona Ice will also serve snow cones with proceeds benefitting FTE

### **What should I bring?**

- ✓ Comfortable clothes and shoes
- ✓ Energy for fun
- ✓ Cash - this is a CASH ONLY event so please bring cash

### **What about the weather?**

In case of rain the show will go on! We have an indoor rain plan to move to the cafeteria/gym if necessary.

**Full Carnival info may be found here!**  
<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/carnival>

## **Summer Garden Volunteers Needed!**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/garden>

A note from our FTE Garden Co-Chairs:

We're winding up another green and glorious spring growing season in our lovely garden! Thanks to our dedicated classroom volunteers who helped link plantings to student studies. Kindergarten grew snap peas, radishes, lettuce and several types of flowers. Second grade grew cucumbers, herbs and skinny French beans, along with the host and nectar plants of their Painted Lady butterflies. First grade grew bountiful salsa gardens, which will continue to produce throughout the summer!

If your family is available for two days/week, you can help harvest these fruits of summer while helping our soil stay active and alive. A Garden Committee member will show you how!

Please sign up to be an FTE Garden summer volunteer here!

Thanks also to the parents who coordinated classroom Harvest Celebrations this week. Hopefully many students tasted and enjoyed something new! Kids who participate in growing school gardens eat a wider variety of fruits and veggies- they want to taste what they grow. Taste of flowering dill or cilantro anyone? And who doesn't love tasting fresh stevia? What, you've never tasted fresh stevia? Come visit the garden and sign up to help this summer!

With kind regards,  
Outgoing Garden Committee Co-Chairs:  
Madelynn Arnold  
Melissa Blue

## **Interested in Volunteering with the FTE Booster Club in the 2017-18 School Year?**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/a/eanesisd.net/fte/booster-club/about-the-forest-trail-booster-club>

If you are interested in chairing a committee or volunteering within one of the many FTEBC committees, please click here. Chairperson interest submissions are encouraged to be completed as soon as possible as positions will be determined shortly.

## **Ways to find out more about the FTEBC:**

Reference the FTEBC Organizational Chart here for information and/ or to contact a current chairperson to ask a question.

Contact Co-Presidents Christie Schultz and Amy Sweeney for more background on FTEBC roles.

### **Interested in Co-Hosting a Parent Social in 2017-18?**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/parent-socials>

Are you interested in co-hosting a Parent Social event in the 2017-18 school year? Hosting groups will form before the summer and dates will be set for Parent Socials in the early summer. Please use the form at the link above to indicate interest in co-hosting!

### **Purchase Options Are Live on the Hub!**

#### **Carnival Wristbands Are on Sale! - Saturday, May 20, 2017**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/carnival>

Don't miss the best family FUN-raiser of the year! Buy your wristbands (like above) to the beloved annual FTE Carnival, which takes place on Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 1-4pm!

#### **School Supplies for 2017-18 - Buy School Supplies by May 31st!**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/school-supplies>

The opportunity to purchase pre-packaged school supplies specific to each grade, is an optional service to our school provided by the School Supplies Committee, generously headed up by Chairperson Merideth Jones. She has been procuring the lists for each grade level carefully in collaboration with teachers to produce this availability for easy online purchase. All parents are encouraged to take advantage of this fantastic, easy way to get your child's supply needs purchased with one click rather than hunt down supplies in August before school starts. Pre-ordered supply package sales will close on May 31, 2017. Supplies will be delivered to your child's homeroom class in time for Muffin Morning in August. Click the above link for more info on this great program offered by the FTE Booster Club.

#### **Booster Club Membership Dues for 2017-18**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/about-the-forest-trail-booster-club>

Renew or become a new member of the FTE Booster Club!

#### **Directories for 2017-18**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/fte-directory>

Get your order in now and check it off your list! Don't miss out on the most useful resource of the year!

### **Weekly Popcorn for 2017-18**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/popcorn>

Get ahead of the curve and purchase your child's popcorn for next year!

### **FTEBC 2017-18 Organizational Chart**

<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/organizational-chart>

Need to find a chairperson to ask a question or learn how to get involved? Check out the Organizational Chart!

### **Helpful Links**

- FTEBC website - [fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club](http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club)
- FTEBC Facebook page - [facebook.com/FTEBC](https://www.facebook.com/FTEBC)
- FTE Parents group - a social forum for FTE parents (not managed by the FTEBC) [facebook.com/groups/FTEparents](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FTEparents)
- FTEBC Organizational Chart - find out chairpersons for committees  
<http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/organizational-chart>

## ***Lost and Found***

These sunglasses have been found at Forest Trail and can be claimed in the Forest Trail office.





***Leftover School Supplies Needed!***

We are excited to have the opportunity for our students to be a part of helping others! There are many Austin ISD students who are unable to get the needed school supplies. We were asked to team up with other Eanes schools to donate leftover school supplies to help with this cause. Please send any leftover school supplies to school with your student or bring them by Ms. Etter's office from now until the end of school. Thank you in advance for your help with this!  
Ms. Etter, FTE Counselor

## ***Summer Camp Information...***

Please check our website "Beyond Forest Trail" for information on summer camps. <https://sites.google.com/a/eanesisd.net/fte/beyond>

## ***Reminder...***

Remember to "Like" us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ftfalcons/> and "Follow" us on Twitter [https://twitter.com/fte\\_principal](https://twitter.com/fte_principal) and Instagram [https://instagram.com/fte\\_principal/](https://instagram.com/fte_principal/).