



TRAILBLAZER

August 25, 2016

Principally Speaking

Greetings from The Trail. We are off and running on another great school year. Forest Trail is buzzing with excitement, and everyone is happy to have our students back. There have been a few hiccups with the bell system however, everyone is handling it in stride. The busses are delivering children on time, and the rust seems to have rubbed off with the afternoon departures. I'm consistently amazed by the efforts our staff put forth daily. This building is spotless, the office staff is in a league of their own and the teachers have provided learning spaces and instruction that will surely lead to success. It has been a real treat to watch the relationships being formed this week that will enable students to rise above any expectations and welcome challenges. Thank you, Forest Trail Families for sharing your children with us.

The first day of school provided the opportunity to introduce new staff and myself to the students. We held surprise Spirit Assemblies to do just that and to welcome the kids back to Forest Trail. I hope you all have had the opportunity to view the madness. If not...feast your eyes <http://safeshare.tv/x/MsBKihognas>

Many thanks to the Booster Club Staff Appreciation Committee for hosting a terrific "welcome back" breakfast for us on our first day back at Forest Trail. Special thanks to Melissa Howitt, Karyn Reiber & Alison Bogle who arrived early to make it all possible.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone of the Back to School Mornings that are in progress. Please visit the Forest Trail website for specific times and grade levels. I would also like to remind everyone to be mindful when parking to avoid the fire lanes. As you know, parking is a premium at FTE yet we need to have those lanes clear should the need arise.

Regards,

Cody Spraberry

Proud Principal

Forest Trail Elementary

Reminder...Back to School Parent Meetings

4th Grade: Friday, Aug. 26th from 7:45am-8:45am

3rd Grade: Wednesday, Aug. 31st from 7:45-8:45am

2nd Grade: Thursday, Sept. 1st from 7:45-8:45am

1st Grade: Friday, Sept. 2nd from 7:45am-8:45am

Meetings are for parents only and will take place in the classrooms.

Newcomers Coffee

All new parents of Forest Trail are cordially invited to attend a welcoming coffee to be held in the Forest Trail Elementary Library on Friday, September 9th starting at 8:30 A.M. The coffee, hosted by the Forest Trail Booster Club, will feature brief presentations by our school's administrative team with ample time allocated for responding to your questions about our school. Get to know the other newcomers and learn the ins and outs of being a parent of a Forest Trail student.

Please help us prepare for this event with your RSVP to Bonnie Rosson at brosson@eanesisd.net.

Booster Club Corner

Welcome from Booster Club Co-Presidents!

We want to introduce ourselves and briefly explain what the Forest Trail Booster Club does. We are Amy Sweeney and Christie Schultz, Co-Presidents of the FTEBC. The FTEBC's mandate is to support our staff and children, and to contribute to a high quality educational environment. We are funded entirely by donations of parents and community businesses, and rely completely upon the generosity of time, talent, and financial resources of our parent community. We encourage you to visit the FTEBC website for more information on the initiatives that we support. We are so thankful for the consistent commitment of our parents who pop popcorn early the morning, landscape our school grounds, man the school store, and those who fill dozens of other essential roles. Your efforts make our school a better place, and we cannot overestimate our gratitude for you!

Please use the following links to connect with the FTEBC, learn about important upcoming events, subscribe to our calendar, ask questions, volunteer, and to financially support the Forest Trail Elementary Booster Club:

FTEBC Important Websites & Social Media to Follow

Forest Trail Elementary Booster Club

Informational pages maintained by FTE Booster Club volunteers - calendar especially important!

- fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club
- [facebook.com/FTEBC](https://www.facebook.com/FTEBC)

Other Important Websites & Social Media to Follow

Forest Trail Elementary Parents

Social forum maintained by FTE parents (not managed by the FTEBC)

- [facebook.com/groups/FTEparents](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FTEparents)

Thank you for your ongoing support, FTE! We are excited about a great year ahead!

Christie Schultz ~ christieschultz@hotmail.com FTE Booster Club Co-President, 2016-17
Amy Sweeney ~ amysweeney01@gmail.com FTE Booster Club Co-President 2016-17

Gratitude for a Wonderful Muffin Morning!

We want to thank all of those involved in a super-successful Muffin Morning! Thank you to our Co-Chairs Carrie Lindsey and Michele Strain who did a fabulous job of making it a smooth, informative, fun event for parents and students. We want to thank the FTEBC committee chairpersons who represented their committees so well, informing parents about the many entities that contribute to our school. Many thanks as well to the dozens of parents who brought in hundreds of muffins to serve - we couldn't have a Muffin Morning without you! And of course we are grateful for the youth volunteered their time to help with refreshment serving and stocking. What a great way to kickstart a great year!

Thank you, Bus Buddies!

We want to thank our Chairperson Christine Parker for skillfully matching buddies across many bus routes servicing FTE. We are grateful to the many 4th and 5th graders who offered to help younger students become comfortable on the bus these first few weeks of school! Your leadership and kindness is appreciated!

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

No-Hassle Fundraiser is Back!

The FTE No-Hassle Fundraiser is back by popular demand! This no-fuss approach to funding important programs couldn't be simpler! Simply donate online by September 24th! See the attached flyer, and visit <http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/No-Hassle-Fundraiser> for more info!

T-Shirts for Sale!

Back by very popular demand, the awesome Forest Trail t-shirts are available for sale again! Click here to order by September 2nd!
<https://southbysea.squarespace.com/forest-trail-elementary> - password: sxsforesttrail

Weekly Popcorn Poppers Needed!

The Weekly Popcorn Committee needs you! Join a team by volunteering for just one Thursday every month! More info here! <http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/popcorn>

SXSF: Science Fest Presenters Needed!

This October 28th will be another great day for FTE students when SXSF: Science Fest returns! We are looking for presenters to lead a session in science, technology, engineering, or math. More info here! <http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/science-fest>

Mark Your Calendar!

August 25 6:30pm - FTEBC Chairpersons Social
September 9th 8:30am - Newcomers' Coffee
September 9th 9:30am - First Booster Club Meeting with Speaker Amy Brady of Clutter Consultants shares organizational tips for a great school year
September 22nd 6:30pm - FTEBC Chairpersons Social
September 24th 5:30pm - Bingo Night
September 30th morning - Falcon Frolics
October 28th morning - SXSF: Science Fest

Don't miss an important date! Subscribe here! <http://fte.eanesisd.net/booster-club/events-and-calendar>

FTEBC Organizational Chart

Find out who's chairing committees this year, and connect with them here!
<http://fte.eanesisd.net/a/eanesisd.net/fte/booster-club/organizational-chart>

EISD Destination Imagination Info Night!

DI is an educational, fun, creative problem-solving program in which student teams solve open-ended Challenges and present their solutions at Tournaments. Please join us for the Destination Imagination Info Night on Sept. 7th from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the EISD Board Room and find out more about the benefits of DI and how teams are formed. Please see the attached for more information.

GIRL SCOUTS!

If you have a daughter between Kinder and 5th Grade interested in joining a Girl Scout Troop, please email me your information by Thursday, 9/1. If your child is already in a troop at Forest Trail or if you signed up at Muffing Morning, you do not need to sign up again. We will be working to get new troops formed and girls placed ASAP!

Attention 5th Grade Girls: Heart 2 Heart

Heart to Heart is a program for 5th grade girls dedicated to providing a positive, supportive environment where the girls can develop lifelong character and values through fun activities and lessons on truthfulness, loyalty, and friendships. A primary goal of H2H is for the girls to realize their true self-worth and seek to develop the beauty of inner character. We want the girls to embrace a life that is Honest, Excellent, Admirable, and Responsible and remind them constantly that they are Treasures! Bible scriptures will be referenced in the weekly lessons to illustrate these character qualities and help prepare these young ladies for the challenges they face as 5th graders and as incoming middle schoolers.

Each meeting will include a snack, games, and interactive lessons facilitated by parent leaders.

When: Six Fridays right after school from 3:30-4:45 on the following dates: 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 10/14, 11/11, 11/18

Place: Forest Trail Elementary Courtyard

Register online through Eanes Community Education

Questions: Contact Julie Jones (FTE mom and program coordinator) at juliejones1@gmail.com or 512-623-0496

Spanish Lunch Bunch

A language program children love! Enroll early!

Our interactive program makes learning conversational Spanish easy and fun. Taught by **native Spanish speakers**, we meet twice a week at lunch or once a week after school in a small classroom (max. 15 students) with a fun, relaxed environment. The positive language experience we offer - taught through songs, stories, puppetry and games - will foster openness to the sounds and culture of the Spanish language. Presently we are offering Levels 1-4. Registration is open! <https://eanes.augusoft.net/> Questions? Contact *Anna Salas* at (512)497-4243, salasaustin10@ymail.com or visit

the website at <https://sites.google.com/site/eannesspanishlunchbunch/>! Please see the attached for additional information.

2016 Youth Spirit Clinic for K-5th Grades

Join the WHS Cheerleaders for the 2016 Youth Spirit Clinic on Saturday, Sept. 24th from 1:00 to 4:30pm at the WHS Chap Court. Register at : ChapsCheer.com

See the attached flyer for more details.

Westlake Youth Basketball Association (WYBA)

A non-profit organization serving the Eanes Schools and Westlake Community Since 1994

WYBA invites you to register for the upcoming 2016-17 Winter Season. **All Eanes eligible students, Kindergartners through 12th Grade are eligible to play.** Don't wait, join the 1000+ Eanes students for another great season. To learn about the leagues and register go online at wlyba.org.

Reminder...

Remember to "Like" us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ftfalcons/> and "Follow" us on Twitter https://twitter.com/fte_principal and Instagram https://instagram.com/fte_principal/.

