



ENDEAVOR EXPLORERS

Personalized Learning
Public Charter School

TABLE OF CONTENTS

News	2
Resource Showcase	6
Featured Family	7
The Breakroom	8
Counselor's Corner	9
Elementary News	11

NEWSLETTER

November 2022



MARK YOUR CALENDAR Important Dates

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1 • Valley Children's Hospital Book Drive Begins
- Nov. 2 • Storyland Field Trip
- Nov. 3 • Deadline to Sign Up for STEAM Fair
- Nov. 4 • Final day for school pictures
• Grad Nite Deposit Due
- Nov. 8 • WSCS Board Meeting
- Nov. 9 • Planetarium Field Trip
- Nov. 10 • Leadership/ASB Reagan Presidential Library Trip
- Nov. 11 • Veterans Day: No school
- Nov. 14 - Nov. 18 • Last Week of Fall TK-8 Enrichment Classes (Math Classes Cont. through 12/9)
- Nov. 21-24 • Thanksgiving: No school
- Nov. 25 • LP 4 Attendance due

DECEMBER

- Dec. 6 • Kid's Gift time slot 1
- Dec. 8 • Kid's Gift time slot 2
- Dec. 13 • Kid's Gift time slot 3
- Dec. 15 • Kid's Gift time slot 4
- Dec. 16 • LP 5 Attendance Due
• Semester 1 Ends
- Dec. 19 - Jan. 2 • Winter Break: No School



"We keep moving forward, opening new doors and doing new things, because we're curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

- Walt Disney



PUBLIC NOTICE WSCS BOARD MEETING

November 8 at 2:00 p.m.

This meeting will be by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

Sign up for our 3rd annual

STEAM FAIR



Are you looking for an out-of-the-ordinary project to work on that is both creative and educational?

Encourage your TK-12th grade children to share a unique project at our STEAM Fair!

WHEN: March 9th, 2023 (sign up no later than Nov. 3rd, 2022)

HOW: Email student's name and grade level to Nancy Turner or Christine Chugg (nturner@wscsfamily.org or cchugg@wscsfamily.org) We will guide you through the process of a STEAM Fair project, from beginning idea to presentation day at the STEAM Fair on March 9!

Examples of STEAM Projects:

The possibilities are endless! (These are just a few examples)

Science: An experiment you worked through with a lab write-up

Technology: A Google slideshow or digital photography describing a specific interest

Art: A painting, sculpture, or another artistic project

Engineering: Something you've built or designed in order to solve a problem

Math: A unique way of solving a problem



 SCHOLASTIC

Book Clubs

ONLINE ONLY

Scholastic Book Club is available for all Endeavor Charter School families!

Current Order Deadline: November 18th

Find books for less than \$2.00!

- Type in “book” in the search bar at the top of the page
- A filter will appear on the left-hand side bar
- Click the drop-down menu for “Price” and click the box with \$1 to \$2
- All books less than \$2.00 will appear!

Shipping Info:

- Free shipping to our school (direct to home shipping is no longer offered by Scholastic)

How to Order:

- Go to: clubs.scholastic.com
- Click on CONNECT TO TEACHER >
- Enter 5-Digit Class Code: RDYRJ
- You should now see TEACHER'S NAME: Nancy Turner and NAME OF SCHOOL: ENDEAVOR CHARTER SCHOOL
- Click CREATE AN ACCOUNT
- Type in your information and click CONTINUE
- You are now linked to Endeavor Charter School and you can start shopping!

If you have questions, contact Nancy Turner at nturner@wscsfamily.org or #248-0471 extension 217.

“As the largest children’s book publisher in the world, Scholastic is entrusted with the promotion of literacy through books for millions of kids of all ages and reading levels. Our mission is built on helping children learn to read and love to read.”

Scholastic Mission Statement

ENDEAVOR CHARTER SCHOOL



Endeavor Charter School's Annual Book Drive benefiting Valley Children's Hospital!

During this season of giving, support local, small business and help put a book in the hands of a child hospitalized.

WHEN: Nov. 1st through Dec. 10th

HOW: Enjoy shopping at **Petunia's Place Bookstore** and choose books to be picked up by hospital staff

WHERE: 6027 N. Palm Ave. Fresno, CA 93704

Help us reach our goal of 250 books!

If you have any questions contact Sandra Hammond shammond@wscsfamily.org

KIDS'S GIFT WORKSHOP

Save the Date

Time slots to follow soon: Dec. 6th, 8th, 13th and 15th



RESOURCE SHOWCASE

Trapper Keeper®

by Diane Vaccaro

When tasked to write this little article on a valuable resource, I thought for weeks about what to suggest. Was there a book, a website, a curriculum, a location to visit that I could recommend to families? What came to mind today was this: the binder. I thought back to my elementary days and the joy of going to the store and getting fresh school supplies for the new year. Truth be told, I've never outgrown the love of buying office supplies. But in elementary school, I could spend a lot of time searching through the shelves for just the right Trapper Keeper.

For those of you who don't know what a Trapper Keeper is, it is a themed binder (unicorns or rainbows, sports or landscapes) that also came with matching themed Trappers (folders) on the inside. You could purchase additional folders if you wanted them. I had one Trapper for each subject. They were the best! I actually found a photo on the internet of one I had as a kid (the rainbow and hearts are amazing!).

The binder is one way to keep papers organized by subject in the same place inside the backpack.

Papers don't get lost and scrunched at the bottom. The folders can hold papers that are not pre-hole punched. Whether schooling is happening mostly at home, shared with the school site, or onsite, students grow in independence as they learn to keep track of their own work.

What organization system are you using to build your child's organizational skills? It's not too late to pick up folders. Label them so students remember where to put homework, work to be turned in, or work returned. Once created, spend a few weeks daily checking in with your children, encouraging organization and building habits.

Is it any wonder that I'm an adult with a label maker, a laminator, and a love of color coded binder dividers?



<https://ourcommunitynow.com/style/80s-and-90s-kids-rejoice-the-original-trapper-keeper-is-back>

Clever

TUTORIALS



NITRO TYPE

Nitro Type is now available in Clever. This typing tool gives students an opportunity to learn how to type in a game-rich environment. As the student types with greater speed and accuracy, their car goes faster. As they “win races” they earn trophies and points.

[Click here](#) or use the QR code to check out the full tutorial!



This tutorial is designed to help families get started with the Fresno County Library feature in Clever. If you wish to have your child use digital resources, in this space, they can read through books using this feature.

[Click here](#) or use the QR code to check out the full tutorial!



FEATURED FAMILY

Meet the Valdez Family!

Article by Michelle Garrett

This tight knit, down-to-earth homeschooling family of four (six if you include their dogs-Duke age 12 and Dexter age 3) have been a WSCS Family since 2018. Pictured here are parents Ruben Jr. and Nicole with their two children: Ruben (age 9), and Sophia (age 5). Ruben enjoys playing video games, while Sophia loves to play with her Barbies. As a family they enjoy taking trips together; especially to Disneyland.

Ruben Jr. works at BMW of Fresno as the service manager, and spends any free time at home with his family or tinkering with his tech toys. Nicole is a stay-at-home mom and crafter. They thought about exploring homeschool when their oldest Ruben was four years old. Nicole felt she wasn't ready to let him go, and just felt in her mommy heart that homeschool might be a better fit for them. They looked into different schools and options, and immediately loved everything about Endeavor and all that we had to offer.

Homeschooling has been a great fit because they enjoy being together as a family. Ruben Jr. and Nicole noticed that in some areas with Ruben and Sophia's learning styles, the

kids needed more support. They were able to focus on that during instructional hours. Nicole says it is fun to be able to make certain hobbies into curriculum lessons; such as Ruben's love for Minecraft. They have been able to turn that into a math and geology lesson! It can be fun finding those relatable

tools to help the kids learn. This is especially true as the children have grown older. Now that Sophia is at Endeavor, the family travels more, and then turns them into field trips and lessons. Over the summer they took two trips to Hearst Castle. This will be a future social studies lesson.

Both Ruben (4th grade) and Sophia (kindergarten) attend enrichment classes on Thursdays. The kids enjoy participating in the enrichment classes and field trips. The family tries their hardest to be a part of all the extras that Endeavor has to offer.

Nicole's advice to families new to this journey: "Listen to your gut. You know your child and you know what is best for them. You are their voice on things that sometimes do not get to be heard. Make homeschooling fun! It should not mimic a typical public school classroom because guess what? It is not. That's the joy of homeschool."



THE BREAKROOM

Staff Feature

BY SANDRA HAMMOND



Meet our IT Coordinator, Melissa Culver!

Title/Role

IT Coordinator

How would you describe your family?

My husband and I are busy raising four children. Our homeschool journey started 13 years ago when the children were 6, 4, 2, and brand new. Now the children are 20, 18, 16, and 14. We have two at home, and two are away at college. I am so very glad that our journey included homeschooling.



What is your background/education?

I have been in education for some capacity for 21 years. I have a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning with an emphasis in Technology. I attended graduate school for one year. During that time, I studied Organizational Leadership with an emphasis in K-12 Learning.

I was a full-time classroom teacher for several years. I taught grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. For one year, I taught a combo class. For the last five years, I was an Instructional Technology Coach. I trained teachers to utilize diverse technology so they could teach those same principles to their students.

What does a typical workday for you look like?

I co-facilitate the behind-the-scenes technology for all three of our campuses. I facilitate professional development here in Fresno and at our Oakhurst campuses. I keep all of our websites up-to-date. I troubleshoot technology concerns across our campuses—staff and families. All of our digital resources require an administrator to facilitate the permissions/functions of each tool. In the near future, I will facilitate and build content for our YouTube channels. Additionally, I will take the lead on our Student/Parent Help Desk—this is coming soon.

What is the most challenging part of your position?

Technology always changes. The minute I perfect my understanding of a software platform, the company gets bought out, they change their name, or they update their user interface. Technology never stays the same. There is no downtime in my career path. I always need to research what is coming next or what will impact education. This is marvelous and challenging at the same time. My YouTube content gets outdated and my PDF tutorials are no longer relevant. Everything needs to get updated. One good thing? It makes for great job security!

CONTINUED...

(Photo: Melissa featured here with her family.)

THE BREAKROOM

... CONTINUED

What do you like best about your career choice?

Children. In my opinion, children are phenomenal. When my children were younger, a friend of ours mocked my parenting and said, "Children, stop being children!" [in a sarcastic tone]. It was such a helpful word of counsel. Sadly, I was rushing their development and failed to appreciate their childish



nature. When possible, I love listening to children and what they think of the world. They are so very delightful!

What advice would you give to a family who is new to at-home, personalized learning?

Those precious memories are irreplaceable. It isn't about the destination. It's about the journey. Smile more. Worry less.

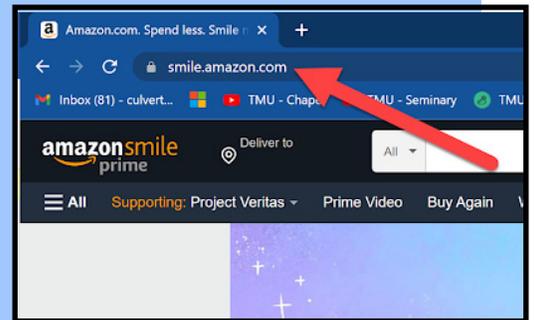
(Photo: Melissa Culver)



Did you know that Amazon gives away millions of dollars each year to charity? Best thing: you get to choose where some of those dollars go! **Western Sierra Charter Schools** is an AmazonSmile recipient. Without spending any extra money, you can request that Amazon donate a portion of all of your qualifying purchases to our schools. Here's how:

Other programs

- Account Linking
- Change your AmazonSmile charity
- Amazon credit cards
- Your seller account
- Login with Amazon
- Amazon Pay
- Manage your trade-ins
- Amazon Business registration
- Amazon Web Services
- Amazon tax exemption program
- Store Analytics
- Your Interests



Head to smile.amazon.com. Sign in using your Amazon credentials. It's the same account. If you are new to AmazonSmile, the website may walk you through the process. If not, follow the next set of instructions.

If you are an existing AmazonSmile donor, it's easy to change who will receive donations.

Click the link or use the QR code to find all the details you need to change or select a recipient.



<https://bit.ly/wscsamazon>

HIGH SCHOOL



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

with Greg Hill

Important Announcements

All High School Students - "Counseling Connection"

I am hosting a weekly "College & Career Counseling Connection" for students. It is an informational meeting for high school students every Thursday morning from 10AM-10:15AM via Zoom. See "College/Career Counselor Connection" post on ParentSquare (sent August 15) with information about the topics and Zoom link. The topics will include College/Career and postgraduate information. Here are the topics for the month of November:

- 11/3 - Earn college credits while in high school
11/10 - Nuts and bolts of 9th and 10th grade year
11/17 - Guest Speaker CHP

Grad Nite Deposit at Magic Mountain: \$25
\$25 is due by November 4th, 2022 to secure your spot. Please submit payment to Rosanna at the front desk.

Grad Nite will be Friday, May 19th, 2023. Total ticket price to be determined. Look for more details to come on parentsquare that will have information about the trip, charter bus, and fundraising. Six Flags Magic Mountain Grad Pass (a season pass that allows students to come back to the park

for the rest of 2023 with only black out dates during Fright Fest).

College Application Information:

California State University & University of California applications open on October 1st! They are both due on November 30. Apply online.

- CSU: www2.calstate.edu
UC: www.ucop.edu/pathways
Private University: Deadline varies

Local Community College Applications:

Seniors interested in attending one of our local community colleges should apply with priority registration through the "Registration To Go" Program:
SCCCD (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College)

Local Community College "Registration To Go" steps

- 1. Application: October
2. Online Orientation: November
3. Counseling / Advising with Student Educational Plan: Feb/March
4. Registration for classes: April if above steps are completed

FAFSA AND MONEY MATTERS

All seniors planning on attending any college or a career technical school:
The FAFSA application opens October 1st. www.fafsa.ed.gov

Please email me at ghill@wscsfamily.org if you have any questions about anything!

ELEMENTARY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

(following the TK-8 Enrichment Schedule)

November Field Trips & Outings

1. Wed. November 2	STORYLAND (deadline to sign up passed)
2. Wed. November 9	DOWNING PLANETARIUM (deadline to sign up passed)
3. Wed. November 16	<u>OSO DE ORO PARK DAY</u> (Only one waiver needed for full year)
4. Wed. November 23	No School
4. Wed. November 30	No Off-Site Activity Planned (Wednesday trips follow TK-8 Enrichment Week Schedules)

ATTENTION FAMILIES WITH FOURTH GRADERS!

FREE PASS AVAILABLE TO ALL FEDERAL LANDS
AND WATERS!

The pass is for the 2022 to 2023 school year. It
expires August 31, 2023

For more information, go to:

<https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm>



STAFF DIRECTORY

Endeavor Charter School

777 Shaw Ave • Fresno, CA 93704
Phone 559-248-0471 Fax 559-248-0482

NAME	EXTENSION	PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT
Eric Hagen	203	Co-Principal/Tech Admin
Nancy Garcia	202	Co-Principal/504 Coordinator
Marianne Lord	200	Admin Secretary
Rosanna Carrasco	222	Receptionist
Julie Schiro	224	TK-8 Advising Teacher/4th Grade Enrichment Classes
Brandon Mallard	229	Adjunct Teacher/Drama/HS U.S. and World History
Brook Hirata	204	TK-8 Advising Teacher/HS Biology/HS Earth Science
Katelyn Carter	210	Student Support Director/HS Earth Science
Diane Vaccaro	206	Advising Teacher/9-12 Leadership/HS T.A.
Grace Reeve	201	9-12 Advising Teacher/HS Biology/HS Chemistry
Greg Hill	220	Guidance Counselor
Delisa Kutzt	205	TK-8 Advising Teacher/2nd Grade Enrichment Classes
Renee Johnson	225	TK-8 Advising Teacher/ROV Coordinator & Teacher
Margaret Den Hartog	207	TK-8 Advising Teacher/5th Grade Enrichment Classes
Nancy Flynn	211	5th-8th Grade Math Adjunct Teacher/HS Pre-Algebra
Nancy Turner	217	TK-8 Advising Teacher/E.L. Coordinator/7th-8th Science
Melissa Culver/ Phil Blas	218	Technology Coordinators
Sandra Hammond	215	TK-8 Advising Teacher/3rd Grade Enrichment Classes
Christine Chugg	230	H.S. Math Teacher
Michelle Garrett	209	TK-8 Advising Teacher/6th Grade Enrichment Classes
Susie Shaw	226	Advising Teacher 9-12/HS English
David Smith	216	Advising Teacher K-8/RSP Teacher
Marcia Souza	208	Advising Teacher 9-12
Michael Cox	(559) 642-1422 ext. 102	WSCS Director
Jody Jeffers	(559) 642-1422 ext. 117	Chief Business Officer

Email addresses for all staff are: first initial and last name @wscsfamily.org (no spaces)

SUPPORT STAFF

Jacob Mulick - English/Graphic Design • Mrs. Gaviria - Spanish •
Mrs. Llanos - K Teacher/7th-8th Grade Art • Mr. McGough - HS Art • Bee Lor - Custodian