



Eastover Elementary School

500 Cherokee Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28207
Courier# 379
980.343.5505
980.343.5524 fax

Susan Nichols, *Principal*
Melanie Bender, *Assistant Principal*

August 8, 2016

Dear Eastover Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! We are ready for an exciting and academically focused school year! As principal of *Eastover*, I want to take this opportunity to tell you about all the exciting things that we have planned for your child and your family.

I hope you will partner with the school faculty to help minimize any anxiety students may feel as school begins. We want to do everything possible to ensure student comfort with coming back to school. If you have any concerns or questions, Eastover's Administrative team will be happy to assist you in any way. Please do not hesitate to contact your grade-level administrator for assistance:

Dr. Nichols—K, 1st, 2nd grade; Ms. Bender—3rd, 4th, and 5th grade

Student success for ALL is our goal here at Eastover. I believe with our dedication to high quality instruction, rigor, relationships, and student engagement, every student will learn to his or her full potential. I ask for you, our parents/guardians and community members, to please recognize that in order for your child (children) to be successful in school, your children (and our students) need your support, particularly, in these ways:

- *Attend school daily and arrive on time, ready for the day's learning experience*
- *Complete all homework and other assignments given by teachers*
- *Read for pleasure at least 15-20 minutes daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills*
- *Ask your child to share school experiences with you daily so that you are aware of his/her school life*
- *Inform the teacher if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject (maintaining a 2-way dialogue between parent and teacher)*
- *Honor and value the instructional time in each class—support limited interruptions during the school day so instructional time is maximized*
- *Know that as the parent, you expect for your child to succeed in school and go on to college*

Our first day of school will be Monday, August 29th, and our hours of operation are 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. To welcome all of our parents and students and answer any questions you may have, we have planned an **Open House for August 25th from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** I warmly invite you to come and meet the Eastover staff and tour our school and classrooms.

Please note: All staff members will be extremely busy working to prepare for the first day of school and attending workshops, so we ask that you please wait until August 20th, before visiting the school.

Other important information:

- * Welcome letters and school schedules will be mailed home the week of August 15th. All classroom placements are temporary until the 20th day of school.
- * Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry during the first four days of school with all kindergarten children attending beginning **September 2nd**. All students will be allowed to go



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- directly to their classrooms beginning at 7:45 a.m. daily. Classroom teachers will discuss school procedures, conduct student tours, and conduct assessments during kindergarten orientation.
- * School Uniforms- Eastover Elementary continues to be a uniform school for the 2016-2017 school year. Students are expected to wear a white collared shirt and navy bottoms (shorts, dresses, skorts, pants, or capris). Tights must be white or navy only (no patterns). Sweaters and/or jackets worn in school during the school day must be white or navy blue. Athletic shoes may be any color. Shoes may not have lights or any other items on them which may be deemed by school administration to be a disruption to the educational environment. Parents will be contacted if students are not in uniform and to arrange for a change of clothes to be provided to the student. Please adhere to this expectation.
 - * Staff members will be on duty each morning to assist both carpool riders and bus riders to ensure the safety of all students. **To maintain the integrity of the carpool timeframe, students must be able to open the car door and exit quickly to the sidewalk on the school side of Cherokee Rd. Parents are not allowed to park on Cherokee and bring their students in the building. This is a safety violation and delays the carpool.**
 - * Volunteers will be working the first several days of school to escort students who may need assistance in finding their classrooms. Parents are invited to walk their students to class on the **first day** of school only.
 - * Bus Schedule and Routes- A transportation name tag will be mailed home for your child. You will have a bus tag only if your child is eligible for transportation. If you are new to the school and eligible for transportation, the assistant principal (Ms. Bender) will provide a temporary tag for your child until the CMS tag is sent to the school. We ask that students wear their transportation tag for the first week of school. This tag includes the following:
 - Child's Name
 - Address
 - School Assignment
 - A.M./P.M. Bus Numbers
 - Stop Location
 - Estimated Pickup and Drop off Times

Please write down your child's bus number, the bus stop, and the time to expect your child to be picked up and dropped off because there may be more than one bus that will come through your area. You want to be sure that your child boards his or her assigned bus.

(For kindergarten students: Please talk to your child about getting off the bus when they see you at the stop.) All students should be at the bus stop **at least 10 minutes prior** to pick-up time. Please be flexible with the bus schedule during the first several weeks of school. This is the time that the CMS Transportation Department evaluates and adjusts the bus runs.

If your child does not get off the bus, the driver will bring the child back to Eastover. Call the school immediately so that we can alert the transportation office and expedite the process. If you have any questions about transportation, please call the CMS Transportation at 980-343-6715 or our school at 980-343-5505. In addition, if you have moved during the summer, please make sure that you are still eligible for transportation.



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Please take note that CMS will provide transportation to alternative stop locations, including licensed daycares and/or relative's address, only if it is in your child's attending school boundary. Requests for alternative stops/daycare centers are made through the CMS website: <http://www.cms.k12.nc.us> using the **Transportation Service Request Form**.

- * Our cafeteria staff will prepare a variety of food each day. Prices are as follows:

	Breakfast	Lunch	1/2 pint Milk
Pre-K Students	Free	\$2.00	\$.50
Elementary, Middle & High School Students	Free	\$2.25	\$.50
Adults	A la Carte	A la Carte	\$.50

School menus are sent home on a monthly basis. Parents may pay for their child's lunch on a daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly basis at school or online at PAYPAMS: www.paypams.com (1-888-994-5100) Checks should be made payable to Eastover Cafeteria. **Please include your child's name and lunch number on all checks.**

- * Please remember students will be learning routines and procedures during the first days of school. Your support in being consistent with routines (transportation, lunch, carpool, etc.) will help your child learn procedures more quickly. **We ask that parents wait to have breakfast or lunch with your child/children until after the first two weeks of school (beginning the week of September 12th).**
- * At Eastover, we encourage parent participation through volunteering at the school, attending school programs, joining the PTA, and participating in as many sponsored activities as possible. Parents are reminded to sign-in at the main office and put on a name badge. Visitors will not be admitted to the classroom or allowed passage through the hallways without displaying a visitor's badge from the office. Parents will also be provided at Open House as well as on the first day of school a grade level schedule. This will assist in communication between school and parents of best times to visit or check in/check out your child during non-instructional times.

Once again, welcome to Eastover, a place where great minds take flight! I look forward to meeting you all at our Open House on Thursday, August 25th!

Sincerely,
Dr. Susan Nichols
Principal
Eastover Elementary School