

January 3, 2018

Pineville Neighbors Place

Dear Jane,

Thank you so much for your contribution of a variety of toys, food and continuous support at Sterling.

I know of no other way to say it. I just have to share that I am absolutely blown away by your generosity. I cannot even begin to tell you how much your donation means to the family that receives it. To think that you have given just because you believe in what we are trying to do encourages us.

As you know, Sterling is a high minority school with nearly 90% of our students living in poverty situations. One of the struggles that we battle with is the simple fact that many of our students only know the immediate world around them- their neighborhood- their street- maybe only the walls of their apartment. We have many homeless students and many students that live in extreme crisis from day to day. **Instead of allowing the cold hard facts to imprison us in a world of "cant's" Our vision at Sterling is to be well known for our ability to positively impact all lives towards a better tomorrow.** Our whole district stands firmly behind "Every Child. Every Day. For a better tomorrow..."

The goal is for Sterling students to not only be able to read/write and do math- but also understand that they are only experiencing a fraction of what is out there. Our hope is that they develop a "taste" for unique differences and celebration of cultures so that they can see themselves as an essential piece in the puzzle. It does not matter that statistics of children living in poverty have a 50% drop out rate... because here at Sterling, we don't believe in that. All of our students will have a future. We will help families lead their children to be thoughtful, productive citizens of our great country where random acts of kindness are a norm. We will get there and it is you that is helping us to speed it along.

Your donation helps make our mission possible for our children. Our children need people like you. **Our children need people who see the good in what we are attempting to do and help us destroy any barriers that are in our way.** Thank you for the encouragement that we are working together to stop the cycle of poverty. Thank you for caring.

With Sterling Pride,

Eridania Perez            Gerald A. Jenkins  
Family Advocate        School Counselor

Sterling Elementary  
9601 China Grove Church Road  
Pineville, NC 28134

Sterling Elementary School is a 501 (c) (3) corporation  
Sterling Elementary EIN: 56 – 6001074