

January, 2011

East Mecklenburg High School PTSA Newsletter



6800 Monroe Road Charlotte, NC 28212 Phone: 980-343-6430 Fax: 980-343-6437
Web site: www.cms.k12.nc.us/allschools/eastmeck/mainpage.html or www.eastmeckeagles.com

News From Principal Rick Parker

Dear Parents,

Inside this issue:

Good News to Share 2

As we bring to a close first semester, covered under a blanket of snow, it is my expectation that each student finishes strong with their ultimate goal in mind – staying on course to graduate with their class! I am very proud of all the students that took advantage of our extended day program, EOC Blitz Tutorials. The program consisted of teachers offering extensive tutoring in Algebra I, Civic and Economics, US History, Physical Science, Biology, English 9 and Literacy to help better prepare the students for their first semester exams. My hope is that your child's first semester was successful and I encourage all parents to continue to become involved with their children's education.

Beginning second semester, we have developed a credit recovery program called *East Mecklenburg High School Enrichment Program*. The program will run as a satellite of the Hawthorne High School Mastery Program, which has a non-traditional mastery approach to learning. Some of the courses will be facilitated through the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Program while math and English courses will be facilitated through East Mecklenburg High School. Students enrolled in the NCVPS Program will have the benefit of a certified teacher in the classroom to help blend the material from the virtual teacher with the expertise of a "live" teacher. This program will provide students the opportunity to earn course credits for courses they have failed while in high school. The ultimate objective of the program is to provide students, especially at-risk students, an alternative to dropping out of school and to help students get back on track for graduation. Participation in this program is open to all high school students, focusing primarily on those attending East Mecklenburg High School. The program will be offered from February until May.

Congratulations are in order for many of our students and staff on their accomplishments and awards during the second quarter. Catherine Metz, theatre teacher, and three of her students, Eric Bray, Vanessa Ibeh-Kingsley, and Geoffrey Artic, were selected to participate in The Broadway Experience on February 16 sponsored by the Blumenthal family. This experience involves tours of 4-6 Blumenthal theaters; a workshop with two cast members of *In the Heights*; and lunch and free tickets to see *In the Heights*. Dale Richardson and Anna Hesmer's Culinary Arts students entered the CMS culinary competition and brought home gold and silver medals. Culinary I students, June Nean, Stanly Weaver, and Jonathan Card won gold. Culinary II student, Matt Anderson, won silver. Senior, Kyle Mackey, received a \$2500 education scholarship from Elevation Church. Kate Speice was our quarterly "Do the Right Thing" winner. There were 400 nominations. Kate was selected as 1 of 12 top winners that will be recognized at a special ceremony at the NASCAR Hall of Fame on January 18. Kate performed CPR on an elderly man at Target until paramedics arrived on the scene.

Mark your calendars! These are dates you don't want to miss!

January 20th – Parent University Course: "Adolescence 101". The target audience for this course is parents of adolescents ages 11-18. The presentation provides parents with a quick-look into adolescence and recommendations of where to look for help in addressing academic and social development challenges of this age group. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Media Center

January 31st – Academy of Engineering Information Session: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Session for parents wanting more information about East's AOE beginning in August 2011. Contact AOE Coordinator, Penny Ratchford at penny.ratchford@cms.k12.nc.us for more information.

January 31st _ Annual Open House: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. "A Night to Soar with the Eagles and pick up your passport to the future". This will be an evening to showcase our school with Freshman 101 orientation, classroom demonstrations, student clubs, organizational booths, and parent opportunities. A general welcoming session begins in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m., followed by an opportunity to tour the school and learn about course offerings. This event is targeted for prospective students and for current students who will have a chance to investigate course offerings for next school year.

February 3rd – Reports cards distributed

February 10th – Parent University Course: "Homework without the Headache" – Discover the top homework challenges and ways to trouble shoot and ultimately eliminate them. Determine how to maximize success at home and at school through communication between students, parents, and teachers. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Media Center

February 24th – Starlight Café / Music Revue: 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

I look forward, as we begin to start second semester, to continue building a partnership with you and your child providing the academic opportunities that help prepare them to lead a rich and productive life. In closing, here is a quote from Nido Qubein, President of High Point University, which sums it up for all of us very nicely, "Success is not a matter of luck, an accident of birth, or a reward for virtue. It is strictly a matter of decision, commitment, planning, preparation, and careful execution. Success does not come to you; you go to it."

Sincerely,

Richard B. Parker

Remember: Every Eagle A Success!

Good News To Share

NEW YORK! NEW YORK! ***Broadway Experience***

Hot off the presses! Four East Mecklenburg Theatre students have won adventures in theatre from an anonymous benefactor associated with the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center.

Geoffrey Artis, Eric Bray, and Vanessa Ibeh-Kingsley will participate in the Blumenthal Experience. They will take part in master classes with Broadway actors and skilled technicians, tour the major theatres in downtown Charlotte, and attend a Broadway touring company production of In The Heights. They will also eat lunch in a lovely downtown restaurant and have an elegant dinner at the *Charlotte Alive* party.

Jessica Clark is one of twelve students chosen out of eighty students in Mecklenburg, Union, and Gaston counties to participate in the Broadway Experience. She will fly to New York City, stay in a beautiful hotel, tour New York's famous sights, eat in famous restaurants, attend two Broadway shows, and go backstage with the actors to see how everything works!

Catherine Metz, the proud teacher, is one of three teachers chosen from twenty directors to chaperon the Broadway Experience. She will represent CMS.

Congratulations everyone!

ART CLUB SALE **Bojangles & Pizza!**

Art Club is selling Bojangles coupon cards for \$2 (up to \$15 in value). We are also selling Hungary Howie's Buy One Get One Free cards for 10 pizzas for \$5 each card. See Ms. Winiarski in room 202 to purchase them. Thank you for supporting the Art Department!



Starlight is coming in March

*Join Us For a Night of
East Meck*

Talent and Entertainment!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

