

November, 2010

# 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](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/allschools/eastmeck/mainpage.html) or [www.eastmeckeagles.com](http://www.eastmeckeagles.com)

## News From Principal Rick Parker

Dear Parents,

The students are off to a great start for the 2010-2011 school year. The staff and I are fully committed to keeping East Mecklenburg strong by providing every student with an effective teacher. Improving student achievement, providing the best teaching practices and building meaningful relationships within our community will always remain East Mecklenburg's focus.

The "Sixty Years of Excellence" celebration was an event that touched us all with heartfelt emotion. Seeing 350+ alumni (1950-2010) walking in a parade entering the stadium made me realize how rich in history East Mecklenburg is and will continue to be in the future. As I looked up into the stands, seeing a packed student section dressed in blue and gold chanting "Who are we...East Meck," hearing the band playing our fight song, and seeing families and friends all cheering for the football team as they captured a 38-7 homecoming victory over Rocky River, truly brought back to me the meaning of high school Friday Night Football. It was definitely a historic celebration that will go down as one to be remembered forever. A special thank you goes out to Joan O'Brien, Pam Smith, Teresa Fesmire, and their event team for coordinating such a special event.

Even though we have only reached the end of first quarter, it is imperative for students to take advantage of tutorials and recovery opportunities that are provided by our teachers. All teachers are encouraging regular weekly tutorial for students who feel that they could use some one-on-one time. We have tied the attendance recovery program to academic tutorials to ensure that students meet the attendance, as well as the academic requirements. All parents are reminded that students can miss no more than ten days in a class in order to receive credit for the courses they pass. Our EOC (End-Of-Course) Blitz will begin November 8. This program, offered after school, entails a highly focused curriculum aimed at providing extra help for students to increase their scores on the EOC exams in English, math, social studies, and science. This program is highly recommended.

This year for the first time we will be implementing Personalized Education Plans (PEPs) for all students struggling in courses needed for graduation. The PEP is a tool to help students improve in their classes and for parents to be aware of interventions necessary for student improvement. Please take advantage of this opportunity for your child to have additional support.

Many of our student Eagles have been representing East Mecklenburg well and deserve some recognition. Congratulations are in order for two fine young men. David Ayers is a semi-finalist in the 2011 National Achievement Scholarship program and Zachary Brown is a semi-finalist in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship program. The East Mecklenburg Band continues its tradition of excellence by receiving four superior ratings and three Grand Champion Cups. What a great year! The choral students had their first concert under the direction of new teacher, Kathryn Heinen, and it was a huge success. Our Culinary Art II students will be participating for their second year in a row in the "Taste of the Panthers" VIP event held at the Bank of America stadium. They were the only culinary arts group to receive this honor. Sam Shisso received the "Do the Right Thing" award presented by the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. He was honored for demonstrating exemplary behavior and for serving as a positive role model for his peers. Thirty of our Business Law students participated in a job shadowing opportunity through AT&T. Congratulations to all of them for their hard work.

The Academy of Engineering (AOE) year of planning begins with a huge honor! I am proud to announce that our East Mecklenburg AOE was awarded a \$7000 grant to be used for training during the year of planning. Only ten schools in the country received the prestigious honor. Penny Ratchford, AOE coordinator, is doing a great job coordinating training and events to build partnerships with the community. We have a "meet and greet" night on November 4 to recruit potential business partners to work with our new Academy of Engineering. I am very excited about the implementation of this great academy within our school and the exposure and opportunities it will bring to all students at East Mecklenburg.

In closing, please remind your child that champions do not become champions by just being recognized in the ring, it takes daily preparation! Let's not wait until the end, join me now in helping keep their eyes on the ultimate prize, graduating with their class. I want to thank each of you for all your continuous support and commitment to making East Mecklenburg High School the place to be! I wish each family a safe and relaxing holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Rick Parker

### Inside this issue:

Guidance and Student	
Services	2,3
Good News To Share	3

**Remember: Every Eagle A Success!**

### ***IMPORTANT SENIOR YEARBOOK PHOTO INFORMATION***

#### **Urgent Information for Senior Parents**

The last opportunity for your Senior to get their picture taken for the Yearbook will be held on **Monday November 1st** at East Mecklenburg in the auditorium during the school day. The date you received in the mail is incorrect; it was not Monday the 25th of October. Dates were changed because Mid-Term testing began on the October 25th. We simply pushed the date back one week.

The picture time provided to you in the mail will remain the same. For example, if your student is supposed to have their picture taken at 9:15, he/she will still go to the auditorium at that time. The only difference is that it will be on the **1st of November** (not October 25th). For those of you that don't know what time your Senior is scheduled to have their picture taken, I will leave a copy of the appointment times in the main office for your reference. Simply call 980-343-6430 and ask one of our front office staff members.

Finally, your Senior needs to bring their appointment card with them on November 1st. This is their hall pass and will allow them to leave class in order to go to the auditorium.

Thank You,

Bill Deiss, Yearbook Advisor

#### **Special Request From The Culinary Arts Department**

Equipment needed for Culinary Arts Room 201

All parents are encouraged to visit the website listed below to provide stools for the culinary arts department at East Meck. Please visit this website and donate for a very worthy cause at our school.

<http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/proposal.html?id=400333>

Thank you,  
Anna Hesmer



### **ADULT VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!**

- What:** Graduation Project Review Boards
- When:** November 10th, 2010 from 2:00—5:00pm
- Where:** East Mecklenburg High School
- Why:** To help EMHS seniors fulfill a graduation requirement  
To receive free Graduation Project Board Member training  
To see more of East Meck's students in action  
To visit with other adults, friends, neighbors, parents, staff  
To enjoy great food prepared by the Career & Technical Culinary Arts Students
- Contact Deborah.smith@cms.k12.nc.s or call 980-343-6430 ex. 245 to volunteer.*

## Guidance and Students Services

### ***NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT***

- Seniors, East Meck will participate in the statewide “College Application Week” co-sponsored by College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and the Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRO) on Tuesday , November 16th and Wednesday November 17th. All seniors wishing to participate must sign up with Ms. McGraw and visit CFNC.org (My CFNC profile) and register before Monday, November 15th.
- Parents if you are planning to move from the East Meck zone please come to the school counseling office to withdraw your student. Bring back books, uniforms, and any items belonging to East Meck. A parent signature is required to forward grades and transcripts to your child’s new school. Call Melissa Ross at 980-343-6430 if you have questions or concerns about withdrawing your student.
- On December 15th East Meck will present “Financial Aid Night” from 6:30-8:00, which will provide vital information regarding college financial aid. Mark your calendars!
- Students, please continue to check the East Mecklenburg School Counseling web page for scholarship information and more. Go to East Meck home page and click on school counseling.
- Finally, students please take advantage of tutoring being offered by teachers after school. This is a great resource for extra help, and a good opportunity for students who have missed six or more days of school and need to start recovery. You must recover 90 minutes for each day missed.

### **COLLEGE VISITS!!**

The following colleges will be in the Guidance Office after school (2:15pm) on the dates listed below:

<b>November 1st</b>	<b>Wellesley</b>
<b>November 16th</b>	<b>Global College</b>

The following colleges will be in the lobby outside of the cafeteria during lunch:

<b>November 2nd</b>	<b>University of Delaware</b>
<b>November 8th</b>	<b>Old Dominion University</b>
<b>November 23rd</b>	<b>Cleveland Institute of Art</b>



## Good News To Share

### ***HONORS ORCHESTRA STUDENT TO COMPETE IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP***

Addy Albershardt, a violinist in the Honors Symphony Orchestra, went to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO and qualified for the 2011 JUNIOR WORLD CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS in Copenhagen, Denmark. The World Championships will be held September 21-26, 2011. Addy is currently ranked 2nd in the COUNTRY in this time trial, and is one of only four 17-18 year olds that will represent the United States. Addy also has some crazy tan lines!

**CONGRATULATIONS AND  
GOOD LUCK ADDY!!**

### **IB THEATRE PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER**

What happened to Daniel Hand? Where did he go? Is he dead? Why did he leave? Have you ever thought about it? Disappearing? Shannon is a high school student and aspiring filmmaker who wants to discover what happened to Daniel. “Dan Hand” has been missing for over a week. Shannon begins interviewing people to form a documentary on Daniel’s disappearance. How many of them are telling the truth? Are they hiding something? Jeremy, Shannon’s best boy, assists in helping her figure this out. Bible freaks, hot shots, potheads, and partiers accompany Shannon on her journey through Daniel’s life. **THE DISAPPEARANCE OF DANIEL HAND** will be one of East Meck’s most controversial and intense shows ever! Be there November 18th and 19th at 7:00pm to experience the excitement.