

East Mecklenburg High School PTSA Newsletter



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Web site: www.cms.k12.nc.us/allschools/eastmeck/mainpage.html or www.eastmeckeagles.com

News From Principal Rick Parker

Inside this issue:

Dear Parents,

Thank you for a wonderful start to the 2010-2011 school year! It has been very smooth and well supported by you and your student. The adjustments made to our hat, dress code and cell phone policies have been well received by the students and they are adapting well. The students seem to be more focused, on time, and on target for their school day. I told the students during morning announcements on September 22 that professional boxers don't become champions by just making an appearance in the ring-becoming a champion takes daily preparation! Please join me this school year in reminding our students that they have to *be* before they can *do* and they have to *do* before they can *have*! And last but not least, let's remind them to remember "who they are and where they came from!" They are East Meck Eagles, brave and bold in their blue and gold!

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I am proud to say we are celebrating 60 years of Excellence at East Mecklenburg this year. On homecoming night, October 15, the East Mecklenburg Foundation is planning a night to recognize all of the long ago East alumni and former principals before the start of the game with an Olympic style entrance into the stadium. Please mark your calendars as this will be a historic event that you do not want to miss!

The School Leadership Team is off to a great start. The team is currently reviewing and re-designing the School Improvement Plan. We have developed a very strong School Leadership Team consisting of parents, teachers, and administrators that support the school's mission: *East Mecklenburg High School strives to create a safe, nurturing environment where students plan, prepare, and expect to be successful in the 21st century. Working together with the various communities and supportive parent partnerships, we aim to improve the vision of the whole individual by developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Through leadership, effective teaching and mentorship, our staff encourages students to become active, compassionate, lifelong learners who are open-minded and understand diversity.*

Our Open House and Back to School Night were a huge success! For the second year in a row the Open House for Parents and Students was standing room only. I felt the informational session in the auditorium captured your attention to the important areas to help your student be successful. The hotdog dinner supported the feeling of a family atmosphere and community outreach as parents and students visited different organizational booths. The Back to School Night's mock schedule ran smoothly as students and parents walked from class to class visiting the teachers, learning about the first ten days of school and their expectations.

I encourage every parent to be proactive in your child's education. Parent Assistant is an interactive program provided by CMS that every family should be using on a weekly basis. Parents, if you do not have a code for logging in, please e-mail Billie Little, Instructional Dean of Students (billie.little@cms.k12.nc.us).

I am looking forward to building a partnership with you and your child to provide academic opportunities that not only make an impact but make a difference. It is my belief that "we are not sent to be served, but to serve." East Mecklenburg's future depends mainly on YOU. Please take a leap of faith with us for success as we continue our efforts to make East Mecklenburg High School the place to be!

Sincerely,
Rick Parker
Principal

PTSA News

Thank you to all who attended the September general PTSA meeting and Back To School Night. We appreciate all who signed up to volunteer for a committee, as we would like as many parents active in our PTSA programs as possible. Please refer to eastmeckeagles.com if you would like more information about getting involved. Our October board meeting will be held Thursday, October 21st at 7:00pm in the main office. All are welcome to attend!

Ruth Harris, President

Remember: Every Eagle A Success!

Guidance and Student Services Information

East Mecklenburg High School Graduation Project Review Board Volunteers Needed Nov. 10, 2010

Please participate as a member of a Review Board on Wednesday, November 10, 2010.

As a requirement for graduation, all Charlotte Mecklenburg High School Seniors must complete a Graduation Project in which they demonstrate competencies in research, oral, written, and technical communications skills.

This year's seniors (class of 2011) will prepare a portfolio, product and oral presentation. Review Boards this fall will score **2 of these components—the oral presentation and the product**.

Students must successfully complete all four components to graduate from CMS:

1. **Research Paper**—demonstrates research skills and writing skills. (This is completed in the Junior year and is scored by a different set of evaluators at a different time—not in the Review Board.)
2. **Portfolio**—to catalogue/document tasks, record reflective thinking and insights, as well as demonstrate responsibility for learning as work progresses through the entire process. This spring, the students' English 4 teachers will score the portfolio.
3. **Oral presentation**—to communicate student's project work before a review panel.
4. **Product**—created through the use of new knowledge and skills gained from research completed in the creation of the research paper.

Each Review Board will consist of parents, teachers, and other professionals. Board members will

1. Listen to and evaluate an oral presentation and ask clarifying questions of the student.
2. Evaluate the product as an extension of the student's research.

We would like you to participate as a member of a Review Board on Wednesday, November 10. Rubrics will be provided for the evaluations. All volunteers need to be at East Meck from **2 pm to about 5 pm**. A brief training session will be given at 2 pm sharp in our Media Center prior to your serving on the Review Board. Presentations will begin at 2:30. Delicious snacks will be served by our Culinary Classes to all volunteers. Thank you for considering this opportunity to share in this important learning activity. We appreciate your time and interest.

Review Board Volunteer Form

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

_____ I will volunteer Wednesday, November 10, from 2 pm to 5 pm.

_____ I am not able to help this fall, but keep me in mind for spring.

Child's name if student at East Mecklenburg: _____ Grade: _____

If you have any questions, contact Deb Smith at deborah.smith@cms.k12.nc.us or call 980-343-6430, ext. 245.

Guidance and Students Services

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

- Upcoming Events: **College Night, October 19th 6:30-8:00, Media Center**

There will be three college representatives to provide valuable information for Junior and Senior parents.

- Leadership opportunity for Sophomores: **HUGH O'BRIEN YOUTH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR** (see Ms. McGraw for more details).

- **SAT DATES:** Oct 9th, Nov 6th, Dec 4th, Jan 22nd, Mar 12th, May 7th, Jun 4th

Register online www.collegeboard.com.

- **ACT DATES:** Oct 23rd, Dec 11th, Feb 12th, Apr 9th, Jun 11th

Register online www.actstudent.org.



SENIOR YEARBOOK OPPORTUNITIES!!

Dear Senior Parents,

Do you remember your son or daughter's first day of school? It may seem like yesterday, but in just months your student will be graduating. How do you express just what this time together has meant to you?

How about purchasing a recognition ad in the yearbook? It is a great way to say "I love you and I'm proud of you" as well as share favorite childhood photos and memories.

Yearbook ads are on sale now. This is a unique opportunity to send a message which will bring a smile to your student's face over and over throughout the years.

In addition, recognition ads are a fundraiser for the yearbook program at our school. Through your support we can continue to produce a book students love while keeping the cost affordable.

Our school is working with Jostens, our yearbook provider, on the recognition ad program. For your convenience, there two ways to purchase your ad:

1. Go online to Jostensadservice.com to create and purchase your ad.
2. Contact Mr. Deiss at William.deiss@cms.k12.nc.us.

Don't miss this opportunity to show your student how proud you are. Order your ad today!

Sincerely,

Bill Deiss &

The Yearbook Staff

BAND FRUIT SALE

The East Meck Marching Bank Fruit Sale Fundraiser has begun. Support the Eagle's Marching Band by purchasing a box of fruit. Fruit is from Florida and is delicious! Order online at www.embfruit.com with easy payment via credit card or PayPal, or call Ana Adkins at 704-277-8394 to place your order.

JROTC NEWS

*All JROTC students who still have uniforms from last year need to turn them in **NOW**. Parents, please assist your student in getting uniforms returned.*

SMSGt. Johnnie W. Barnes



East Mecklenburg High School *60th Anniversary Celebration* *October 15th and 16th, 2010*

East Meck is celebrating 60 years of excellence and we want YOU to join in the festivities! A large Alumni event will take place at our Football Homecoming on Friday, October 15th. All past principals, teachers, homecoming queens, class presidents and all proud East Meck Alumni are invited! Before the game, they will march into the stadium led by the Drum Line and the Eagle Mascot - an "Olympic" event! Alumni who graduated in the 1950's are helping plan this event and their excitement is contagious - and do they have some stories!

We hope you come out early on Friday night to be a part of all the celebration.

On Saturday, October 16th everyone is invited to bring a picnic lunch to the grounds of East. Several classrooms will be open with teachers on hand and tours will be given by current students. And on Saturday evening, the Class of 2000 will celebrate their 10th reunion!

Commemorative T-shirts and specially embroidered picnic blankets with the "Strutting Eagle" logo will be for sale.

We need your help. Please spread the word about the event and pass this information on to any East Alumni and friends via e-mail or Facebook. Contact Joan O'Brien at 980-343-6430 or e-mail joan.obrien@cms.k12.nc.us for more information.

A "Birthday Gift" for YOU!

East Mecklenburg High School is celebrating 60 years of excellence! You should have received a commemorative car decal as a gift and we hope you will join with thousands of other proud Eagles in support of our wonderful school! Also, mark your calendars now for the Big 60th Homecoming Football Game on October 15th and plan to join in the fun—look for details in future communications. And thank you for displaying your decal with Eagle Pride!

