

May 2018

# East

## Middle School



Our Vision:

**Encouraging Growth, Exploring Passions, Sparking Curiosity**

**Leah Gonyeau, Principal**

Larry Padgett, Assistant Principal

Jenn Cochran Secretary

Ruth Burkhart, Secretary

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### Important Dates

#### Student Council Elections/ Speeches

May 2, 8:30-10am, EMS Gym

#### Pride BBQ

May 2, 10:30-1pm, Field & Patio

#### No School—Non Contact Days

May 3 & 4

#### Enrichment Day

May 7

#### Girls are Great

May 8, 2:55-4 pm, Cafeteria

#### NJHS

May 9, 2:45-3:45pm, Cafeteria

#### Chataqua

May 14, 3:30-7pm, Cafeteria/Gym

#### Girls are Great

May 15, 2:55-4 pm, Cafeteria

#### 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade

#### Band Concert

May 15, 7pm, Gym

#### 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade

### Letter from the Principal:

Dear East Middle School Families,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this last newsletter as the Principal of East Middle School. As most of you know, I am retiring at the end of this school year. I have happily, and proudly, served as your Principal for five years, after previously being an Assistant Principal and math teacher in this District. Meeting and working with you and your students has been a highlight of my career.

At this time, I am honored to announce that the new Principal for East Middle School, beginning next school year, is Mr. Timothy Fifer. Mr. Fifer was an Assistant Principal at Redlands Middle School for the last two years and before that, an administrator in Delta County. We have a few other openings to fill due to staff being extended job offers in District 51's restructuring efforts. We say goodbye and thank you to Mr. Darren Cook, who is a new District 51 Learning Model Coach. Also leaving us for a new position is Ms. Becky Johnson, our teacher librarian. She accepted a position as an instructional technology coach. They both will do incredible work in those capacities, but we will miss them greatly.

Next year's calendar has been released by the district and we will be hosting our registration day on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. From 7:30 - 5:00. Families can come into the gymnasium and complete the registration process, receive their schedule and locker, pay fees, and take their picture for their ID card. On August 14<sup>th</sup>, we will have our 6<sup>th</sup> grade and new student orientation from 9-12. We start school on Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Back to School night will be Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 in our gymnasium.

Thank you for your part in helping to make East Middle School the best school in the District. I will miss the student's passion and energy, interacting with the amazing professionals, as well as the support from parents, but consider myself beyond blessed to have been a part of it for the last five years.

In Gratitude,

Leah Gonyeau, Principal  
254-5020

## Important Dates (Continued)

**Orchestra Concert**  
May 17, 7pm, Gym

**8th Grade Formal Dance**  
May 18, 6-8pm, Cafeteria/  
Patio

**Girls are Great**  
May 22, 2:55-4 pm, Cafeteria

**Last Day of School**  
May 24

**Teacher Work Day**  
May 24,

**2018-19 Registration**  
August 7, 7:30am-5pm, Gym

**Incoming 6th Grade  
Orientation**  
August 14, 7pm, Gym/Patio

**1st Day of School**  
August 15

**Back to School Night--  
All Students**  
August 16, 6-7:30pm, Gym

## 7th Grade End of Year Field Trip

7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be able to participate in a rafting adventure **OR** a hiking adventure

Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Hiking:** The Bangs Canyon Trailhead lies at the heart of the Bangs Canyon Special Recreation Management Area and provides access to several different trails and recreation opportunities. These include: hiking in Rough Canyon and Ladder Canyon – home to an historic mica and quartz mine. Fee \$3

**Rafting:** Sit back and enjoy a peaceful and relaxing float down the beautiful Colorado River while our guide does all the work. With several wildlife opportunities and knowledgeable guides, you can't get much better for a short float down the river. Fee \$38

## 8th Grade Students and Parents

**8<sup>th</sup>-Grade Superlatives** will soon be upon us! This is a fun celebration our team hosts on May 24<sup>th</sup> during the school day to celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup>-graders. It will include snacks for our 8<sup>th</sup>-graders, plus a photo slideshow of memories, and fun "Most likely to be..." awards. Help us include all 8<sup>th</sup>-graders by emailing a picture of your student that they feel shows them at their best within the past three years. Also please tell us what your student's future career plans might be inclusion in the photo slideshow. Questions and pictures can be emailed to Riana

Bichler at [riana.bichler@d51schools.org](mailto:riana.bichler@d51schools.org) The due date for submissions will be Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for helping us celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup>-graders!

## Upcoming school year Registration—2018-2019

Upcoming school year 2018/2019- registration will be online. This will launch sometime this summer prior to our registration date August 7, 2018. All grades will confirm enrollment, verify immunization, pay fees (My Payments Plus), School Pictures, and pick up your schedules that day from 7:30am-5pm. You must have a ParentVue account. All of your children that are enrolling in District 51 schools must be on this one account in order for the enrollment online to work.

## Library News

Mrs. Johnson, EMS Teacher Librarian, would like to thank East Middle School parents, students and staff for a great year! We had our best Scholastic Book Fair on record, with over \$1,700 raised for new books. The Butter Braids fundraiser was also a great success, enabling the library to buy new furniture for a comfy and colorful lounge area, and new paint for the walls. We have a great community of learners and readers here that make the EMS Library a great place to be!

Thank you so much for your fantastic support.



## Students of the Month—April



Carina, Ollie, Preslee, Blake, Sami, Dawson, Layla

## Enrichment Day

East Middle School is very excited to offer our 14th Annual Enrichment Day on May 7, 2018. We will have a morning session from 8:30 – 11:30 and an afternoon session from 12:00 – 2:30. Enrichment Day offers students the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of interesting, unique and hands-on activities on and off campus. This day is always a success because of community and parent volunteers. If you would like to help, here are ways you can help out:

- Volunteer to help out in a class
- Provide breaks for presenters or staff
- Deliver water to presenters or staff
- Donate bottled water (drop off in the office)

Donate money to help with scholarships for students (some of the classes do cost a small fee and many students are not able to pay that fee)

If you are interested in volunteering in some way, please contact our main office at 254-5020 or e-mail Mr. Moore at [rob.moore@d51schools.org](mailto:rob.moore@d51schools.org).

## East Middle School Chapter of NJHS

Mrs. Weber and Mrs. Sleight would like to thank our current officers for their leadership this year! We would also like to congratulate the following members for being nominated to run for office at our May meeting (Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:45 in the cafeteria):



Mallory Cawood	Deniz Bean
Blake Sturgeon	Dawson David
Megan TerLouw	Emma Ellis
Maddie Sites	

Finally, congratulations to all of our members who fulfilled their service hours this year. Here are some highlights from the year:





## Choir & Orchestra News

This busy year is coming to an end, but not before a few more events. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir and orchestra will be performing at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade orientation day at EMS April 23 at 9:15am in the gym. The performers will need to wear a white shirt and jeans. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade string clinic is April 26 at GJHS. Permission slips will go home along with the information for the day and night event. Concert attire will be necessary in the evening only. Our final choir/orchestra concert for the year will be held on Thursday, May 17 at 7pm in the **GJHS Auditorium**. Awards will be presented at this concert. Just a reminder, several camps are available for your students to attend over the summer. They need to check the bulletin board in the choir/orchestra room and the emailed links. Any student who participated in the Rock-A-Thon and solo/small ensemble may apply for a scholarship to be used toward a camp or music related event over the summer. Those applications are due by **May 2**.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the choirs/orchestras at EMS this year and am looking forward to our adventures next year!! I hope all of you have a wonderful summer and until next time.....STAY TUNED!!!

Sing-cerely Yours,  
Raisha Quinn

## MESA News

It is hard to believe that this year's MESA program competition schedule is coming to an end. In April we travelled to CMU for the egg drop competition. We had a strong showing, but sadly no eggs survived the 50ft fall. This was the first competition where points were awarded for using a 3D printed component (Thank you again to the Western Colorado Community Foundation for the 3D printer!) and all teams had something printed to help their structures. Along with the competition we were treated to a tour of the new Confluence hall (Engineering Building) where students got to see state of the art engineering equipment and opportunities for the future. Lastly the CMU Society for Physics Students provided demonstrations ranging from laying on a bed of nails to a liquid nitrogen cannon. It was such an exciting day for the students.

In May we have the solar car competition as part of the downtown Cinco de Mayo celebration on Saturday, May 5. The race will be in front of the Avalon Theater starting at 11am. Students have been making a car that will run only with a provided solar panel. They need to then decide on gear ratios to make their car as fast as possible. Lastly they have to include at least one component that is 3D printed. For the race there will first be time trials and then a head to head race tournament to determine the final winner. Good Luck to all our students!



## Bike Club

Greetings, Cheetahs! This year, the East Middle School Bike Club has dived into ground-breaking research surrounding student behavior and physical education. This research contends that, when given the chance to get outside and enjoy physical activity that demands attention, focus, and movement—such as riding a bike—students will improve academically and psychologically. Students have enjoyed riding around beautiful downtown Grand Junction, the world-class single track available at the Lunch Loops, the expansive campus (and alma mater for Mr. Roenicke and Mr. Moore) of Colorado Mesa University, and the stunning flora, fauna, and scenic vistas of Grand Junction's Riverfront Trail. Mr. Roenicke and Mr. Moore would like to express their deep and abiding appreciation for students that show up to ride. Special thanks to Will Leintz, Attitucus, Zeke, and Xanthus Mansur, Felix Scheskie, and Cody Fuller for assisting in retrieving and storing bicycles. We will culminate our year with a day-long trip to the Lunch Loops for Enrichment Day, and we look forward to another great year starting in August 2018!



## Health Office Reminder

Please remember to pick up your student's medication before the end of the school year. This includes all prescription and over the counter medications. We are obligated to discard it if not picked up by the last day of school. We are not permitted to send medication home with the student, it MUST be picked up and signed out by an adult.

If you choose to immunize your child, make sure all middle school immunizations per the state of Colorado and District 51 are up to date. The Health Departments phone number is: 970-248-6900  
Thank you,

Katelin Gumfory, EMS Health Assistant , 254-5020 Ext: 33118

## Girls STEM



On Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 4 East Middle school girls attended the Western Slope Girls in Stem Conference, presented by CU Science Discovery. Ava Smith- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Miah Hines- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Joyce Jones- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Cielyn Massengill- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade attended along with Ms. Johnson and Mr. Warner. The program included programming, robotics problem solving, team work and making a presentation.

## Cheetah Leadership Team Council—

Just a Quick note let you know what CLT Ambassadors have been up to at East Middle School lately.

In the last month they have been creating ways to celebrate their peers by having each Advisory teacher nominate a student who has been working diligently in class on their POL. With this nomination they will eat pizza with the Principal, Mrs. Gonyeau. To celebrate the end of testing, they also put together a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> themed social with a play on bad luck myths and Good Luck Charms. It took them over a month to create this VERY successful event. It went off without a hitch thanks to their dedication and hard work during and before the event!!

We welcomed the 171 - 5<sup>th</sup> graders on Monday the 23. The ambassadors demonstrated professionalism and kindness toward the incoming 5th graders from 4+ different elementary around the valley. They played games, gave a tour of East and help them choose a music for next year. They did all of that in only 2 ½ hours!!

Coming up we are planning a Pride BBQ to celebrate their Peers here at East. We will be welcoming Family, friends, and community on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. They will have games set up on the field, bump and jump obstacle course and hamburgers and hotdogs to eat. We want to thank the East PTO for sponsoring and paying for the food and Obstacle course Bump and Jump! It takes a Village!

The last day of school, May 24<sup>th</sup> the CLT Ambassadors will be handing out popsicles to cool help cool down all their peers during the Yearbook signing party.

I have been overcome with love and respect to this year's group!! It has been a blessing to have worked with every one of my CLT Ambassadors!

Blessing,

HEIDI LADUKE

CLT Ambassadors Leader

## News from the Gym

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are starting the last unit of the year, Archery. We are all excited to demonstrate our archery skills in a very safe environment. All classes will be involved in individual and team competitions during the unit. This will make for an exciting end of the year for PE. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders are also starting their last unit of the end, Backyard Games. The students will rotate to: Croquet, Bocce, Scram Ball, and Badminton. Come join us anytime.

## Photography Class News

Teresa Facun shows how she can really fly! Photography classes have been learning many techniques from Ms. Weber. This one is called, Levitation Photography. Classes have learned a lot about composition, lighting, taking silhouette photos, using the cameras on their cell phones better and much more.



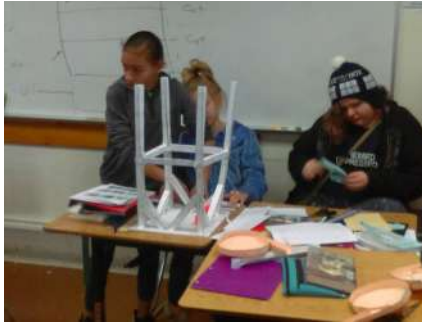


## Tech Ed Class News

East Families

I wanted to share some of the work or students have done this year. Thank you for sharing your children.

Mike Warner



## Track News

The track season is coming to close very soon with the District Finals scheduled for May 1 at Stocker Stadium. This year's team has been working very hard during and is excited to showcasing their talents at the final meet of the year. Results for all track meets can be found on the district web site (<https://www.d51schools.org>). We look forward to seeing you at the track.

## Yogi is Coming Back!

Many of you may remember Yogi our Therapy dog. He will be back for a short day visit for Enrichment day. Yogi will be showing students how they can take really good care of their K9 Friends. They will be learning about nutrition and choosing a dog, to grooming and basic training. Yogi is going to look fantastic getting a new groom job and he is having more fun getting dirty for the occasion!

Yogi is enjoying his time at home but, really wishes he could come back to school. He has a new friend named Shasta. Shasta is a Toy Australian Shepherd. She really loves being with Yogi.



## From Your Friendly Neighborhood Reading Interventionist

### 10 Ideas to Prevent the Summer Slide

While it might be tempting to take a break from reading over the summer, research shows that students who don't read over the summer will start the next school year missing essential skills. Still, summer reading doesn't have to feel like a chore. Here are some ideas for how to make reading part of your summer fun...

1. Make library visits a regular part of your summer routine and don't forget to sign up for the Mesa County Libraries Summer Reading Program. <https://mesacountylibraries.org/summerreading/>
2. On long car rides listen to audiobooks as a family or load audiobooks to personal devices.
3. If you are going on a trip, encourage your child to do some research beforehand and be responsible for being the "tour guide" for key locations.
4. Research what book-to-movie adaptations are coming out soon. If one of the movies is on your family's watch list, challenge your child to read the book before the movie is released on DVD or in theaters.
5. Make reading part of the daily routine. After fun in the sun, have a time of day that is set aside to relax and read.
6. Play board games and make your child responsible for reading the instructions.
7. If your child has a hobby or wants to start a new hobby, encourage him/her to research the topic online or at the library.
8. At family gatherings, have your child read aloud to younger family members to keep them entertained. Silly voices and expressions are encouraged!
9. Visit sites like <https://www.teenreads.com/> for book suggestions. Summer is the perfect time to start a new series or discover a new favorite author.
10. Keep an open mind. Don't discourage your child from reading books that appear "too easy." While it's important to keep growing as a reader all year round, summer reading is a great time to relax and rediscover how much fun reading can be.

Happy reading! -Mrs. Rorabaugh