

Good evening this is Rick Parker, Principal of East Mecklenburg High School calling with our weekly update. We had our first blast of frigid cold air this week. With cold temperatures comes challenging times of power outages and cars not starting. Parents, we are aware of the challenges of bad weather and want you to remember, if the yellow flag is out in the student drop off/pick up area, students will be allowed to go straight to their first period class without signing in at the attendance office. Students are given up to 7:30 a.m. to be in class during these challenging mornings.

A big congratulation goes out to Cole Alexander, as he was selected to participate in the Southeast Honors String Festival at UNC-Greensboro at the end of January.

This week students have been preparing and reviewing for our upcoming exams. Our exam schedule will be as follows: Monday, Jan. 12th will be a Full school day – no early dismissal. The day will start with Period 1 exam and A day / B day exams. After exams end at 11:45 – students will attend “A” day 2nd period, 3rd period and 4th period abbreviated classes. Tuesday through Friday will be on a half-day schedule, with exams beginning at 7:15 and ending at 12:00. School will be dismissed at 12:30 once lunch has been served. Tuesday will be Period 2 exams, Wednesday, Period 3 exams, Thursday, Period 4 exams and Friday will be a make-up exam day. Please note that Tuesday, January 20th is a half-day scheduled make-up exam day. Remember, January 19th is a holiday. Third quarter begins, Wednesday, January 21st.

As a reminder to all students, All makeup tests must be scheduled with the appropriate teacher. Attendance is vital for the success of all exams. I stress to all parents, **students must be present for their scheduled exams**. Dress code will be strictly enforced. Pajamas, bedroom shoes, and blankets are prohibited. All exams will begin at 7:15 a.m. Dismissal will be at 12:30 p.m. To insure a proper testing environment all students must remain in their class until the end of the exam period. No early dismissals will be allowed during the exam period. Please be sure your child is well prepared for testing, as final exams count 25% of the final grade.

As always, my hope is that all students have planned to win, prepared to win, and expected to win for their exams. Good luck students!

Parents, also as a reminder on Thursday, January 15th the second “Coffee with the Principal” will be held in the Media Center beginning at 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. I enjoyed our “Coffee” in October and look forward to seeing everyone on Thursday.

In closing, I would like to express East Mecklenburg’s sincere condolences to our cheerleading coach’s family. Miss Marquita Payton lost her courageous battle with cancer on Monday January 6th. She will be truly missed and her dedication to the cheerleaders and East Mecklenburg will always be remembered.

Thank you and have a great weekend