

Respect,
Responsibility
and
Relationships

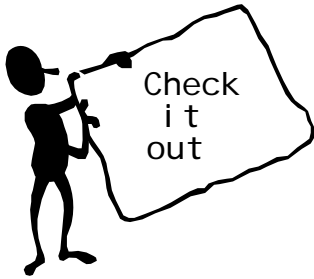


East Middle School "Bulldog Bulletin"

November-December 2009

121 Longwell Avenue
Westminster MD 21157
Main Ofc: 410-751-3656
Guidance Ofc: 410-751-3181
FAX: 410-751-3660

**Mary Swack, Principal
and
Philip Popielski
Chris Roemer
Asst. Principals**



Here's What's Inside:

- Principal's Letter
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- ADA compliance Statement
- Reporting Absences
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- In our Advisories...
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- 8th Grade Ski/Snowboarding
- Clubs
- From the Tech Ed Dept.
- Book Fair
- Service Hours
- Change of Address
- Consent & Release for photographing students
- From the Nurse's Office
- BINGO !!!!!

From the Principal's Desk:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Fall! As the leaves start to change color and the weather gets colder, students have settled into a routine and some new things are happening at East Middle School.

New to this school year is our student ACE (Academic & Character Education) Award. We will be celebrating those students who have earned an A, B, or C in all of their classes and have demonstrated good character with an assembly on November 18 here at school. We have a nationally recognized guest presenter who will reinforce the importance of good education and character as he creates an artistic rendering before our eyes. Parents are invited to attend and take part in this special student recognition that replaces our previous honor roll assemblies. Look for more information about this in future Alert Now e-mails.

New also to this school year is the opportunity to order your child's yearbook on-line at www.ybpay.com. There's plenty of time to order a yearbook—orders will be accepted up until April 12, 2010. However, we will not be ordering extra yearbooks to sell at the end of the year, so please be sure to place your order by the deadline. If you would like to pay by check or cash or need assistance in ordering your yearbook, please contact the school.

East Middle will offer three nights for parent evening conferences: Monday, November 9; Tuesday, November 17; and Wednesday, December 2. It is our hope that parents are able to attend one of these conference nights to discuss your child's progress. We will also offer an evening in the spring—March 15—for an additional conference opportunity.

I'd like to thank all of our parents and families for their support of the PTO pizza and cookie dough fundraiser. Pick up for these items will be on November 9, which coincides with parent conferences. We are excited to be able to host our second annual Longaberger and Vera Bradley Bingo at Pleasant Valley Fire Department on December 4. Please call the main office if you are interested in purchasing tickets in advance. Your support and involvement in East Middle School makes all the difference as we work towards our common goals of high achievement and good character for all East Middle School students. Thank you for being such an active and fundamental part of our school.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Swack

Mary E. Swack, Principal



Calendar of Events

November

- 2-12: BOOK FAIR!
- 2: BEST Wolfgang Fundraiser Orders due
- 3: 8th Gr Trip-Career & Tech Ctr
- 3: IMPACT Meeting 2:30
- 4: Advanced Chorus 2:30
- 5: SGA Meeting 2:30
- 5: Volleyball Intramurals 2:30
- 9: Early Dismissal at 11:35 am
- 9: Cpl. Washington visits students
Internet Safety
- 9: Report Cards sent home with students
- 9: PTO Fundraiser Pickup 4-7 PM
- 9: Parent-Teacher Conferences
Night 1 of 3 / 4- 7:30 PM
- 10: PTO Meeting 7:00 PM
- 11: Advanced Chorus 2:30
- 12: Volleyball Intramurals 2:30
- 16: Faculty Meeting – No BDLL today
- 17: Parent-Teacher Conferences
Night 2 of 3 / 4-7:30 PM
- 18: Advanced Chorus 2:30
- 19: SGA Meeting 2:30
- 23-24: SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS
- 25-27: SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED
- 28-30: *Eid-UI-Adha (Islamic Holiday)*

December

- 1: IMPACT Meeting 2:30
- 2: Advanced Chorus 2:30
- 2: Parent-Teacher Conferences
Night 3 of 3 / 4-7:30 PM

- 3: SGA Meeting 2:30
- 4: **BINGO!**
- 8: Yankee Candle Delivery/Pick Up
- 9: Chorus Rehearsal @ WMHS 4-8 PM
- 10: 7th Gr Trip: Carroll Arts Center
- 10: SGA Meeting 2:30
- 10: PTO Meeting 7:00 PM
- 11: Choral Concert at WMH - 7 PM
- 12: *Hannukah (Jewish Holiday)*
- 14: End of Rotation 2 (M2) classes
- 14: Orchestra/Jazz Rehearsal @ WMH 4-8 PM
- 15: First day of Rotation 3 (M3) classes
- 15: Orchestra/Jazz concert @ WMH 7 PM
- 16: Advanced Chorus 2:30
- 16: Band Rehearsal @ WMH 4-8 PM
- 17: SGA Meeting 2:30
- 17: Band Concert @ WMH 7 PM
- 18: *Al-Hijira (Islamic Holiday)*
- 23: 2 Hr 45 Min EARLY DISMISSAL

Dec 24-Jan 3: SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED

25: *Christmas*

26: *Kwanzaa*

January

- 1: *New Year's Day*
- 4: Students return to school
- 18: Schools/Offices Closed
- 22: Early Dismissal at 11:35 am
- 25: Schools Closed for Students
- 26: First day of Quarter 3



Big Green WEB NEWSLETTER



We, along with many other county schools, are very pleased with the communication service of **AlertNow** --- getting out weekly information to all parent emails, updating families with the latest news, sending permission forms, alerting parents of emergency closings and county health issues, and of course, sharing our bi-monthly newsletter. Not only are we saving the public school system hundreds of dollars in printing and mailing supplies, we are helping our environment by being **green**. Thank you to all of our online families and friends.

REPORTING ABSENCES

East Middle School REQUIRES verification of every student absence.

We will accept **from the parent or legal guardian:**

- A **PHONE CALL** to 410-751-3656 on the day of absence (no follow-up note required)
 - An **EMAIL** to EMSAttendance@k12.carr.org (no follow-up note required)
 - **FAX** to 410-751-3660 (no follow-up note required)
- OR--
- A **WRITTEN NOTE** upon return of the student



Information to include in your message/note should be:

- ___ Student **Name**
- ___ **Date** of Absence
- ___ **Reason** for Absence
- ___ Parent/Guardian **Printed Name**
- ___ Parent/Guardian **Signature**
- ___ Daytime Contact **Phone** Number

Failure to verify a student's absence as lawful within five school days of the student's return will result in the absence being considered unlawful. A copy of the verification document will be kept in the student's file. Thank you for your help in verifying your child's absences in a timely manner.

HOMEWORK HOTLINE

The homework hotline is available daily for students and parents between the hours of 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., and all day on weekends and holidays. You may access the homework hotline by CALLING 410-751-3656.

Please listen carefully and follow the prompts. – OR –

Check ONLINE at <http://members.thinkport.org/EastMiddleSchool>

The homework hotline is very useful for when a student is absent, or forgot to write down his/her homework assignments.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS should be made by PHONE: Guidance Ofc: 410-751-3181

Please keep in mind that HOMEWORK REQUESTS may be made on the SECOND day of absence. Also, the only time teachers have to gather work is **during their planning time**.

Please be sure to call **FIRST THING IN THE MORNING** to ensure teachers have time to collect work.



What's going on in our ADVISORIES...

From Ms. Lawson: My advisory group is learning card games- both new and old. Students will learn new games that the teacher will teach them as well as have the opportunity to teach the group a card game. We will also play trivia games as well.

From Mrs. Goodhart: My **All Star** club is making adoption kerchiefs for the **EZ 2 Love Top Dogs** at Westminster's Cocker Spaniel Rescue. The official name of the group is the Cocker Spaniel Adoption Center....they take all types of dogs, though. They bring adoptable dogs to Westminster's PetsMart about once a month. Info can be found at www.cockeradoption.org

From THE PE DEPARTMENT

- 8th Grade Students: Mark your calendar About the ski trip in Jan. for 8th grade. To save their money and maybe make it a Christmas (Holiday present).
- Can you add a "teaser" about Basketball Intramurals taking place in January and February.
- We are attempting to get TriStar Martial Arts to return again this year during PE classes. Dates are TBD.

8th Grade Ski/Snowboarding Trip

The Annual 8th Grade ski/snowboarding trip has been scheduled for Friday, January 22nd, from noon to 6 p.m. at Liberty Ski Resort. Cost is expected to be about \$65, and permission slips and rental agreement forms should be going home with students in December. Save some of that holiday money for an awesome 8th grade trip on the slopes!

CLUBS

East Middle School already has the following clubs/groups meeting after school: Advanced Chorus, Volleyball Intramurals, SGA (Student Government), Musical Theatre, and Yearbook. Jazz Band will be starting soon, as well as Snow Dogs in the winter. Keep an ear out for announcements about our school clubs and events.

From TECH ED

" The Technology Education classes are in need of **cardboard tubes** like what gift wrap and aluminum foil come rolled around. With the holiday season coming up please "recycle" your tubes by sending them in to East Middle. There will be a box in the front office where they can be dropped off."

Thank You,
Kent Doxzon
Technology Education

The BOOK FAIR Is Coming!!!

The media center will be the home of a Scholastic Book Fair beginning on Monday, November 2nd and ending on Friday, November 13th. All students will be scheduled to visit the book fair with their RLA classes. Students may purchase books as well as browse during this time. It is also possible for students to visit the book fair before school and during lunch in order to make a purchase. The book fair will also be open on the evening of Monday, November 9th during Parent Conference hours. Please feel free to stop in during any of these times. Questions may be directed to our media specialist, Laurie Walters. Parent volunteers will be needed to help with the fair. Please call Mrs. Walters if you are able to help (410-751-3656).

SERVICE LEARNING HOURS

Please remember that in order for volunteer hours to be counted, you must be volunteering for a non-profit organization. If you are in question as to whether or not your hours will count, please ask **before** volunteering. Any questions may be directed to Mrs. Dehne, Service Learning Coordinator. Blank forms are available in the Main Office, or you can download the form at home:

http://carrollk12.org/Assets/file/Student%20Services/Service_Learning/reflect_form.pdf

RESIDENCE ADDRESS CHANGE

Notification is MANDATORY and is the responsibility of the parent.

Very often students' addresses change during the summer or during the school year, and parents/guardians are unaware of the procedures necessary to change their child(ren)'s records. **ALL address changes must be reported to the school IMMEDIATELY, and must be documented by an appropriate proof of residence WITHIN TWO WEEKS of the move. Please call Mrs. Kolk in the Guidance Office at 410-751-3181 for specific information about acceptable documents.**

Failure to advise the school of an address change is subject to a referral to the Office of the State's Attorney for prosecution.

CCPS ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities. Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities, 410-751-3177. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Office of Community and Media Relations at 410-751-3020 or publicinfo@carrollk12.org, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, use Relay or 7-1-1. Please contact the school system at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

CONSENT AND RELEASE

Permission to Photograph, Videotape or Audiotape

Throughout the school year, the Carroll County Public School System frequently covers school activities and may use your child's photograph, video image, or voice for educational, informational, or public relations purposes, with or without identification by name.

If you do not wish to have your child's voice reproduced on tape or to have his/her image appear in such things as a video, a photograph, or the school website, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their children being audiotaped, photographed, videotaped, or having their image placed on a school website by the school system unless such notification is received.

There are also occasions when the media cover certain school events (such as when a government leader visits a school). If you do not wish to have your child's name or likeness published by the media, you should address your concerns directly to the school involved so that the media is so advised. Please be advised that the school system has no control over the media when they are covering activities such as sporting events and musical programs that are open to the public.

Use of Student Work on Websites or in Publications

There may be times throughout the year when the Carroll County Public School System wishes to display student work on school websites or in publications. If you do not wish to have your child's art, poetry, writing, etc. appear on school websites or in publications, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their child's work being displayed on school websites or in publications unless such notification is received.



FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE:

TO STAY HOME or NOT TO STAY HOME...

As educators, we strive to keep our students in school so that they can get the most out of learning. We are preparing your children for higher education, where attendance is key to their success. We understand that illness unavoidably plays into a student's attendance, but we offer the following guidelines to help decide whether your child should stay at home or attempt to come to school.

A student should **STAY HOME** if:

1. The child has a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher. A child must be fever-free and medication free for 24 hours before returning to school.
2. The child has vomited **more than once** before school starts.
3. The child has any contagious disease (e.g., pink eye, chicken pox, strep throat). The student must have a doctor's note to return to school.
4. The child has profuse diarrhea.
5. The child has lice or nits.

A child **MAY COME** to school if:

1. The child has a cold or sniffles. Give your child some cold medicine in the morning before school that does **not** cause drowsiness, and send them to school.
2. The child has been fever-free and medication free for 24 hours.
3. The child has poison or a rash, unless the doctor determines the child should stay home. Please send the child in with anti-itch medicine already applied.
4. The child is tired.
5. The child has a cough. Students **may have NON-mentholated** cough drops in school. A parent or guardian must supply the school with a note which states that the student has permission to carry these cough drops.

These are just a few guidelines to help. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Peters, our school nurse.

Vera Bradley



Longaberger BINGO !

Come out, have fun, and support EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL at our
Longaberger and Vera Bradley Bingo!

Ticket Price: \$12 in Advance,
\$15 at the Door

When: Friday, December 4, 2009

Where: Pleasant Valley Fire Hall

Time: Doors open at 5:30 pm
Games start at 7:00pm

GAMES INCLUDE:

20 Regular Games, 2 Cash Specials, and 2 Raffles

All Baskets and Bags will be filled.

Food and Refreshments will be provided by the Pleasant Valley Auxiliary.

- 400 Tickets Available
- Silent Sports Auction
- Door Prizes
- Make checks payable to EMS

Purchase tickets at the school (use form below or stop by). Let us know if you have a large group for a reserved table.

Contacts: Mel Fedak at 410-751-3656 or at mvfedak@k12.carr.org

Carol Dehne at 410-751-3656 or at cadehne@k12.carr.org

Tressa Kolk at 410-751-3181 or at trkolk@k12.carr.org

*All gaming proceeds will go to a variety of special programs at East Middle School
Neither Vera Bradley nor Longaberger endorse this bingo.*

Pre- Purchased Tickets Cost \$12.00

Tickets at the Door will be \$15.00

Name _____

Permit # 525

Student Name _____

Homeroom _____

Number of Tickets _____

Check _____

Cash _____

For Office Use
Only:

Payment: _____

of Tickets _____

Date given: _____

Initials: _____