

The Tiger Times A Publication of the East Side Elementary School PTA



Principal: Elizabeth Mavity

Assistant Principal: Diane Gurr

Assistant Administrator: Tucker Smith

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By addressing the needs of all children, East Side's community is committed to empowering our children to excel academically and become respectful, productive members of a global society.



Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that spring is here. The school years always seem to pass by so quickly. This is always such a busy time of year. The teachers are working hard to ensure that our students are ready for the CRCT that will begin the Wednesday after spring break. I have observed the teachers doing some very unique and creative things to provide students with extra practice and remediation to ensure their success and confidence when they take the CRCT. I am extremely proud and

pleased with the things that many teachers have done throughout the school year to extend and/or remediate the learning for their students. Our teachers work extremely hard to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all learners. The days of a "cookie cutter" approach to learning are gone! I have no doubt that we earned the status of the Gold Award because of the attention that our teachers give to planning for specific student learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses. I look forward to receiving our CRCT results so that we can celebrate school-wide and individual student academic gains. The individual student gains are ones that we often celebrate the most!

This is also the time of the year that we begin to consider student placement for next year. I will be sending home some parent intake forms after spring break for you to express specific concerns that you may have regarding your child's placement for next year. The forms may be returned to the front office.

All classes at East Side in the next few weeks will be receiving interactive boards for every classroom provided through SPLOST funds from the county. In addition, we will be receiving student response systems which will allow teachers and students to receive immediate feedback for student responses to formative and summative assessment questions. The response system will enable teachers to maximize instructional time by knowing how students are performing during the instructional process. A teacher may recognize that instructional strategies need to be changed or altered during the lesson rather than after. The county will be working with the school to schedule staff training on how to integrate these technology tools during instruction.

We have made an application request to seek the status of a Reading/Project School through Columbia University in New York. The PTA/Foundation have agreed to help us fund the training that is required to become a project school. This is a research-based program that will provide our staff with a very specific framework in which to teach reading/writer's workshop. The creator of the program, Lucy Calkins, is a very well known author of literacy based books for teachers. We hope to hear that we are selected to participate sometime in June. Trainers from Columbia would visit our school next school year and work with our very own East Side students when modeling the strategies within the framework. We feel this training will add depth and consistency to our school-wide reading program. We do plan to add a reading goal to our School Strategic Plan next year.

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SPRING BREAK – Elizabeth J. Mavity

From the PTA	Page 2
PTA Executive Com.	Page 3
Attendance	Page 4
Science Fair Winners	Page 6
Junior Writers	Page 8
Heroes Essay Winners	Page 9
Calendar	Page 11

From the PTA Co-Presidents

While our new school structure started to physically take shape in February, the work that we do as parents, teachers, volunteers and staff in support of our children started long before then and continues on a daily basis. An area that requires all of us to become informed, involved and engaged is the current budget situation for Georgia and the impact it will have on East Side, the Cobb County School District, as well as every other school in the state. In a word, the situation is dire.

As we write this letter, the State Legislature is considering how to deal with a projected FY 2011 budget deficit of \$823 million. Since education represents over 50% of the state budget, this trickles down to every school district. Some school systems have gone to a 4-day school week in order to save money. Others, including Cobb, have reduced teacher pay, furloughed staff or eliminated positions. Dekalb County has announced it will be closing schools and Fulton County is considering eliminating nearly 500 positions. Again, the severity of the situation cannot be overstated.

Half of the revenue for Cobb Schools comes from the state of Georgia and revenues that the school system collects from local taxes are also off, as much as 10 percent. In his State of the District Report delivered on March 10, 2010, Superintendent Fred Sanderson stated that “we cannot sugarcoat the reality of the financial burden we faced last spring and following the approval of the Fiscal Year 2010 budget. The economic crisis resulted in massive reductions in state education funding, compounding the austerity cuts that have been implemented in recent years.” The District’s Chief Financial Officer Mike Addison reported that the deficit for the upcoming FY11 budget will likely be close to **\$100 million**. District officials stated that they are looking at all options, including increasing class sizes and cutting teacher positions.

We encourage you to learn as much as you can about the state educational budget so you will understand the impact on East Side. A transcript and PowerPoint Presentation from Supt. Sanderson’s speech is available at <http://www.cobbk12.org>. The school board is hosting budget forum meetings around the county to explain the difficult choices that it will be faced with. We will publish the dates in E-News, but encourage you to sign up for the District’s press releases at <http://www.cobbk12.org/maillist.aspx> so you can receive the latest news. Let your elected officials at the local, state and national levels know how important public education is to you. We pledge to do all that we can to mitigate the impacts of these cuts by continuing our support of enhanced instructional materials like First in Math and Versatiles as well as other programs like the Science Fair and Arts in Education which support performance standards. As we have stated all year, these are our children – our future – and they deserve excellence each and every day.

Irene Barton and Toria Peterson, PTA Co-Presidents

Considering getting more involved at East Side but....

There are always the “buts”, aren’t there?

“But... I don’t have the time.”

“But... I work”

“But...I have a preschooler.”

“But... I don’t even know what the PTA does!!”

It takes all kinds of parents to have an active and impactful PTA and we have a place for everyone that is interested in giving back to our great school. The PTA is looking ahead to next year and we have several committees that need help. Please email president@eastsideelementary.com and find the right fit for you!

2010 - 2011 PTA Executive Committee

Congratulations to our newly-elected PTA leaders!

Co-Presidents:

**Toria Peterson
Jill Butler**

Co-1st VPs:

**Jayshree Sawant
Angie Arsenault**

Co-2nd VPs:

**Mollie Cushing
Amy Carroll**

Secretary:

Laura Stokes

Treasurer:

Dana Champion

Budget and Finance:

Kit Carlson

PTA Book Swap Coming in May – Three for One!

Our second annual East Side Book Swap will be held May 6 during the final evening PTA meeting of the year. This year our focus will be on swapping some great books just in time for the summer and also sharing books with our sister school Fair Oaks Elementary. Each student will receive a ticket to get one book for every three books that are donated. We will be collecting books and distributing tickets before school in the cafeteria the mornings of May 4 – 6. Bring your tickets to the PTA meeting to pick up some fun summer reading!



40th Anniversary of Earth Day

April 22, 2010

Senator Gaylord Nelson is the Founder of Earth Day. The first official celebration came in the spring of 1970, but the idea and hard work began nearly 7 years earlier, while JFK was still President. Momentum really began building in late 1969 when Sen. Nelson announced at a conference in Seattle that in the spring "there would be a nationwide grassroots demonstration on behalf of the environment and everyone was invited to participate." Sen Nelson recognized that teaching people why protecting the planet was important was a critical piece to the success of the event. And here we are...40 years later with the same mission – protecting the planet.

Some environmental issues are the same that our world faced 40 years and others have changed dramatically. Some have actually improved – do you remember the "hole in the ozone" and the positive impact that the ban on [chlorofluorocarbons](#) in aerosol spray cans had? We can make a difference!



Our PTA Environmental Education Committee encourages you and your family to show your support of the environment and stewardship of our planet on this special Earth Day...and every day thereafter. Wondering what you can do? Here are a few ideas that can have a BIG impact if every East Side family adopts just one or two:

- Take reusable, BPA-free water bottles on spring break, to the ball fields, gym, school... everywhere! The Pacific Institute estimates that in 2006, producing disposable water bottles for American consumption required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil, not including the energy for transportation. Be a part of the solution!
- Recycle your paper, aluminum cans, plastics and glass. Aluminum can recycling saves 95% of the energy needed to make aluminum from bauxite ore. While East Side is no longer able to accept your paper due to limited dumpster space, there are a number of nearby schools and churches that would welcome the support. Our EEC does accept used tennis shoes, rinsed Capri Sun pouches and printer cartridges for recycling. Many local nonprofit organizations accept cell phones as well.
- Switch to CFL bulbs! Did you know that if every American home replaced just one light with an ENERGY STAR light, we would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes for a year, about \$700 million in annual energy costs, and prevent 9 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions per year, equivalent to the emissions of about 800,000 cars.
- Give up plastic and paper shopping bags. Over a *billion* single-use plastic bags are given out for free each day. These require natural resources to produce and ship, take thousands of years to decompose and the small plastic particles can pose threats to marine life and contaminate the food web. You will remember to take your reusable bags into the store! iCare bags are for sale at the Tiger's Cage for \$5.

Reminder of Attendance Policy

Excused absences are defined by law in the State Board of Education Rules for the following reasons:

- When personally ill and attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
- When there is a serious illness or death in the immediate family.
- On special and recognized religious holidays observed by their faith.
- When mandated by order of governmental agencies.

It is very important for your child to bring in a note, either handwritten by the parent, or from their doctor, explaining the absence from school. With the convenience of email, many parents often communicate with their child's teacher regarding the absence using this method, however, a handwritten excuse note must still be sent into the office within 3 days of the return to school.

Regardless of the reason for the absence, the school policy also indicates that you will be notified of your child's absences when they reach 5 days by their teacher, 10 days by administration, and 15 days by me, the school social worker. These notifications go out to parents whether the absences are excused or unexcused. This piece is often confusing to parents, however, it is the Cobb County School District's policy.

Teacher Appreciation Week

February 8-12

The week started off with the sweet fragrance of roses, carnations and daisies as East Side students brought in flowers for their teachers on Monday. Parent volunteers arranged the bouquets and the PTA made sure that our non-homeroom teachers were not forgotten. On Tuesday, the staff enjoyed baked goods provided by the PTA Executive and Staff Appreciation Committee with coffee generously donated by Starbucks. On Wednesday, while the teachers had lunch provided for them by their classes, the PTA also honored our dedicated cafeteria staff with lunch generously donated from Amy and Tammy's Boxed Lunch Company. Thursday was all about pampering and relaxing. The teachers began their day with delicious coffee donated by Caribou. Many teachers enjoyed chair massages by Will Graham as well as a calming Yoga session at the end of the day with Susan Clark.

The week came to a close on Friday with an unexpected early release, a lot of snow, and a delicious lunch catered by Instead of Flowers hosted by the Hospitality Committee. Local area businesses donated wonderful prizes which were raffled after the luncheon. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to take care of the students while the teachers were at lunch. Although the students were dismissed early, we appreciate your willingness to donate your time as well as being patient with us on that snowy, hectic day!

Many thanks to the Teacher Appreciation Committee – Danielle Mehofer, Archana Patel, Carla Bradwell, Tara Hurst, Jennifer Kaufman, and Lisa Canzano - for an extraordinary week of activities and the Hospitality Committee Darlene Shutley and Archana Patel for organizing the wonderful luncheon for the teachers. Thank you to Robin Newton for procuring our raffle prizes. A special thank you to the local business that provided all of the generous door prizes:

Ali's Cookies
Caribou Coffee-Johnson Ferry Rd.
Champion Beauty Supply
Chili's
Clifford J. Morton, DDS
George Dobo, MD. Of Marietta Dermatology Assoc.
Hair Designer-Lynda Chumbler
Hair Designers
Halo Salon
Healthy Habits (Chiropractic)
Honey Baked Ham
La Madeleine
Massage Envy
Nail Salon in L.A. Fitness shopping center
Outrageous Interiors

Publix at East Piedmont
Red Bandana
Robeks
Sellar's Good Year
Signatures Gifts

Six Beans
Starbucks-Johnson Ferry Rd.
Ted's Montana Grill
The Avenue-East Cobb
The Fresh Market
The Schoolbox
Trader Joe's
Zaxby's (Lower Roswell Rd. @ Johnson Ferry Rd.)
Zeba Hair Salon

A special thank you to: **Will Graham** for providing the massages, **Amy and Tammy's Boxed Lunch Company** for the cafeteria staff lunches, and yoga instructor/parent **Susan Clark** for the relaxing yoga.

When you shop at these local businesses thank them for their generous support of East Side Elementary and the PTA!

East Side Science Fair 2010

East Side students got a chance to showcase their scientific thinking and creativity once again at the annual Science Fair on March 4th, 2010. There were 135 participants at the Science Fair this year!! Our biggest turn out ever!

Students conducted experiments on everything from water powered elevators to mold to freezing water pipes and everything imaginable in between. Just by being there, you could learn how to power a clock using potatoes, how to deal with peer pressure positively, and why peeled apples turn red. Judging the displays was a hard task as each one was educational, entertaining and well presented. The PTA and Science Committee would like to thank our judges who are also our wonderful Partners in Education:

- Mr. Taylor Larkin -- Marietta Martial Arts
- Ms. Lisa Whitfield -- Delta Community Credit Union
- Dr. Tony Brooks – Healthy Habits
- Mr. Justin Morrison – Kid Chess

In addition, we would also like to thank Susan Leingang, East Side Foundation president and Jigar Desai for assisting with the judging. The PTA would like to recognize the Science Committee chairs Rajesh Singi and Rajiv Virmani for organizing the event; and Mrs. Gurr for her support. Now comes the part that everyone is waiting for. The winners for each grade level are -

Kindergarten

- Chirag Shetty "Air Rockets"
- Katie O'Brien "What cleans pennies better"

1st grade

- Kaitlyn Talsky "Pups or people"
- Gillian Stoltz "Can you see through it?"

2nd grade

- Cameron Rogers "Ew! Don't touch that"
- Daniel Li "Bouncing Egg"

3rd grade

- Ethan Howard "Electromagnets"
- Khurram Yamin & Curren Patel "Water powered Elevator"



4th grade

- Andy Chyong "Potato Battery"
- Alex Pace "Storage Thief"

5th grade

- Paul Weiland "That's the way the ball bounces"
- Raymond Chen "Make a paper clip float"



You, Your Child and Testing



The CRCT is designed to measure how well students acquire the skills and knowledge described in the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS). The assessments yield information on academic achievement at the student, class, school, system, and state levels. This information is used to diagnose individual student strengths and weaknesses as related to the instruction of the GPS, and to gauge the quality of education throughout Georgia.

(Georgia Department of Education, 2010)

Preparing for the CRCT

What can you do to help your child?

The night before each test day:

- Exercise
- Eat a healthy meal
- Get comfortable clothes out for the next morning
- Do not study, this could interfere with clear thinking on test day
- Go to bed early and get plenty of rest.



Each test day:

- Get up early to prevent morning rush
- Insist that your child eat a good breakfast
- Be on time each and every day.

What can your child do?

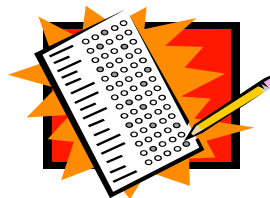
On test day:

- Wear comfortable clothes
- Eat a good breakfast
- Try not to be absent.



During the test:

- Relax - take a couple of deep breaths
- Wear glasses if you need them
- Listen carefully to directions
- Read the test carefully
- Work carefully, but quickly
- DO YOUR BEST!! ☺



Junior Writers

The New School

By: Jack Steber, Karishma Pradhan, and Rutva RajeevGowda

Crush! I bet most of you are wondering about the construction going around East Side due to the demolition of the third and fifth-grade playground. Well, it's happening because there is going to be a new school. There is going to be sixty-nine classrooms and three stories in it, too! The top level will be for fourth and fifth grade, the middle level for second and third grade, the office, specials, cafeteria, and **brand new stage**. If you live on Clubland Drive, directly behind the school, you probably can hear all the noise, but the construction people are trying the best they can so that they don't disturb the residents of Clubland Drive. Despite the noise, there is going to be a bigger cafeteria with a bigger stage and an atrium! But they are going to be using the same playgrounds, instead of building new ones. And if you're an environmentalist or something in that category, then good news for you! They're going to replant all of the trees they cut down, and replant the DEAR Garden. The ribbon will be cut in 2011, so enjoy the new school! Here is a photograph of what the new school is supposed to look like.



OVERALL VIEW FROM NORTHWEST
 EAST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA
 COBB COUNTY SCHOOLS DISTRICT
 Brookwood P&S
 JEA Architects

Jump Rope For Heart

By Garrett Guinther and Emily Smith

Hello jumpers! We are going to talk about Jump Rope For Heart. It started on March 5th and ended on March 19th. Our school was hopping for joy! For one week in P.E. we were jumping rope and trying to break the school and grade level records. We were raising money for American Heart Association for kids with heart issues. Our school goal was to raise at least \$10,000! If we did really well, we could raise \$13,000!

When we have reached our wild goal, Coach Shields has promised to wear a dress. If you helped raise money door-to-door or online, you could get cool prizes like a water bottle or a T-shirt or, of course, a jump rope! Hope you had fun jumping!

Super Science Fair

By: Hannah Fry & Matt Smith

On March 4th, the cafeteria at East Side was buzzing with excitement – about Science! Over 135 students did experiments and demonstrations to show what they know about science at the Science Fair. It was held during the school day and when the participants were called they went down to the cafeteria. A few years ago, they used to have the Science Fair at night and basically only the kids participating and their families came. Now, everyone gets to enjoy the Science Fair. It's more exciting to have everyone see your project.

Alex Pace in Ms. Wood's 4th grade class won for his experiment called *Storage Thief*. He says, "I like the Science Fair because I learn a lot." Jonah Verdon in Mrs. Rosenblat's 4th grade class also brought a project. He says, "I get to see a lot of cool experiments." Chandler Parker, a 2nd grader in Ms. Larsson's class, did not participate, but says "I like the Science Fair because it is so cool to see." You might have seen all those cool experiments this year too. Maybe one of them could be yours next year!

Sweet Sock Hop

By: Payton Gregory and Mary Kate Peterson

Twist and shout, that's what it's all about! East Side Sock Hop has come and gone again. The Sock Hop is our school dance that's themed on the 50's. We played many popular songs. PTA hosted it, and we give a big thanks to them. Poodle skirts, scarves, tap shoes, and all dancing equipment is allowed! Clear the dance floor, because we always dance up a storm! We had awesome raffles, drinks, Varsity, and popcorn! Some people danced the night away with their parents, hula-hoops, and their friends. Hula-hoops were laid all over the floor for people to twist around. Also there were some really flexible people doing the limbo. In the cafeteria there were pictures in the cars, awesome popcorn, and some tasty ice cream floats. So come next year and get prepared to dance and sing and see some bling!

Honoring Our Heroes Essay Winners!

We received an outstanding batch of essays this year! 120 students wrote wonderful essays about the real heroes in their lives.

And the winners are . . .

Kindergarten: 1st – Connor Pyburn

First Grade: 1st – Ashley Kim

2nd – Aletha Santoso

3rd – Gillian Stoltz

Second Grade: 1st – Kiran Dhamotharan

2nd – Ellen Chamberlain

Third Grade: 1st – Deacon Broda

2nd – Anna Catherine Hoyland

3rd – Neil Flack

Fourth Grade: 1st – Tiffany Jeng

2nd – Grace Zhou

3rd – Lena Robbins

Fifth Grade: 1st – Hannah Hattori

2nd – Paul Weiland

3rd – Noah Winston

The following students will represent East Side at the Heroes Reception on March 24th at Dickerson Middle School:

K-1st Grade: Ashley Kim

2-3rd Grade: Deacon Broda

4-5th Grade: Hannah Hattori



*Walton Raiders
Marietta, Ga.*

Rising Walton Junior 5th / 6th Grade Football 2010 Spring Practice and Fall Registration

If your rising 5th or 6th grader is interested in playing football with Walton Junior 5th / 6th Grade Football Program, registration for spring practice and the fall season is here!

Registration for Spring Practice / Fall Season

Where: Walton High School in the Dudley Field House

When: Saturday, April 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Registration fees cover both spring practice and the fall football season.

Spring Practice Schedule

First Practice is Monday, April 26th Time (TBD) Walton HS practice field.

Last practice will be a Spring Jamboree on May 15th!

Check out the website for more information:

<http://www.raidersfb6.com>



Clay Play

Cathy Hightower (para with Cobb County Schools for 12 years) is initiating a weekly Summer "Clay Play" Arts Camp for this June and July starting at 9am - 12:30pm, Monday through Friday. Its emphasis is on creativity and imagination as opposed to being production oriented. Hand building skills will be practiced (one skill on another), and each day we'll work on techniques that connect us to our true source of creativity as a way of preparation. This approach is applicable for all the expressive arts, including writing.

She will be sending out a flier giving all the details in mid April. Classes are limited to 8, so try to have your registration in early so you can choose the perfect week for your schedule. Discount for siblings will be given.

If you have questions, contact Cathy at chighat1@aol.com.

Johnson Ferry Conservatory for the Arts

The Johnson Ferry Conservatory for the Arts is now offering both private music instruction, and group art classes. You can register anytime for piano, voice, guitar and most other instruments. The next Children's Art class begins on March 30th. For more information, visit the Conservatory pages at www.JohnsonFerry.org, or call 770-795-3239.

Walton High School Cheerleading Camp

Calling all Rising Kindergarten through Rising 5th grade Girls

Dates: Tues., May 25,2010
Wed, May 26,2010
Thurs, May 27,2010

Time: 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Cost: \$65.00

The Walton High School Cheerleaders will teach cheers, chants and dances.

Registration forms online: www.waltoncheerleading.com
Any questions please call Gail Lockhart @678-642-8880



Sponsored by: Walton Spirit Booster Club

RISING FIFTH GRADERS- IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dodgen Middle School

Monday, May 3rd will be Student and Parent Night for rising 6th graders.

Dickerson Middle School

Tuesday, May 18th will be a parent night for rising 6th graders. (No students, please...just parents)
Wednesday, May 26th student tours will be given for East Side students from 9:30 - 11:00. Students must be accompanied by a parent. Please no siblings.

Important Dates to Remember

Date	Event
April 1	Domino's Pizza Family Night
April 5-9	Spring Break
April 14	CRCT
April 22	Earth Day
May 5	Walk to School Day
May 6	Book Swap
May 10	Field Day (Grades K-2)
May 11	Field Day (Grades 3-5)
May 13	Domino's Pizza Family Night
May 18	Eat Out Night at Six Beans
May 19	8:00 AM Awards Day Grades 1-4
May 20	8:00 AM Awards Day Grade 5
May 21	Last Day of School – Fifth Grade Walk of Honor



Support your school by adding.....NOTHING to your schedule!

Help raise easy money for East Side Elementary School! It costs you nothing except participation! Schools the size of East Side often generate \$15,000 a year by fully participating in these indirect fundraising programs. **REMEMBER—start participating NOW!** The potential for East Side is fantastic. These programs operate all year round and anyone can participate. So pass the word on to friends, neighbors and relatives!

Listed below are the various ways you can help. If you have any questions, please contact Allison Marshall via email at bamaberto@comcast.net

- Use your **Publix Partner card** every time to shop at Publix.
- Clip the official “**Box Top\$ for Education**” coupons and turn them into the collection bin by the ASP desk or in the PTA mailbox.
- The second Thursday of each month, order pizza from **Domino's** and present them with the coupon you receive in your child's backpack.
- **Campbell's Labels for Education**: Collect UPC's and lids from eligible **Campbell's** products and then turn them in the marked collection box near the ASP desk or put them in the PTA Mailbox. Remember, **only the UPC code is needed**, not the entire label.
- **Pike's receipts**: When you shop at **Pike Family Nurseries**, please send your original receipts to school and deposit them in the PTA mailbox in an envelope marked “Pike's.”

And there are many more ways to help support East Side! Go to our website and look under “Indirect Fundraising” for many other ways to support your school financially.

Stay at Home and Enjoy Dinner with Your Family Night



East Side's Partners in Education



The Tiger Times is a publication of the East Side PTA Every Child. One Voice

The Tiger Times is edited by Sujata Shah (E-mail: Tigertimes@eastsideelementary.com) Phone: 678-560-6956) and

distributed by Laura Stokes (E-mail: lstokes@bellsouth.net)

Please submit articles for the next issue of the Tiger Times to Sujata Shah (tigertimes@eastsideelementary.com) no later than April 26, 2010.

The UPS Store



Limited Partnership



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