

the TIGER TIMES

A Publication of the East Side Elementary School PTA

March 21, 2011
Volume 4, Issue 5

Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

I can hardly believe that it is already March. Perhaps the year is going by so quickly because we are anticipating the completion of our new building. Teachers have selected their classrooms and are in the process of reviewing their classroom inventories. I will be working with a contractor to consider the décor of the administrative offices and front lobby. We are considering moving to a more contemporary style of décor to match our 21st Century building. In upcoming weeks, I will be seeking input regarding these changes from School Council members. And to think that I thought that decorating my own home was stressful!!

I have met weekly for the past few months with a gentleman from the county who is coordinating our move into the new building and the completion of classroom and office inventories. The county has been extremely generous about granting additional items that are not standard on the inventories. Our staff has been informed about the time line of packing and moving into the new building. Classrooms must be packed and ready to move by May 26th. We will have a contracted moving company handle all of the moving for us. It is likely that our building will be torn down some time around the last week of June or early July.

We are having an **Open House May 5th from 5:30-8:00** so that members of our community can enjoy one final walk through our school. We will have plenty of things that will be on exhibit to remind us of the history and fond memories that East Side has embodied over the years. Please make plans to attend.

Kindergarten registration will take place at East Side on **Wednesday, March 30th**. Also, anyone registering for kindergarten will need to bring the following documents with them at the time of registration:

- An official GA child Health Record for proof of immunizations (form 3231) and Hearing, Dental, and Vision (form 3300)
- Original birth certificate
- Original Social Security card
- 2 Proofs of residency (current utility bill)
- Parent driver's license.

Also, it is a state law that students enrolling in kindergarten must be 5 on or before September 1st. The information required at registration is also posted on our school's website.

Again, thank you for your dedication and support in making East Side the best school in Cobb County!! In the next Tiger Times, I will be offering helpful hints to get ready for the upcoming 3rd & 5th grade CRCT testing the week of April 12th - 21st.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Mavity



Principal: Elizabeth Mavity
Assistant: Diane Gurr
Assistant Administrator:
Kristen Erbskorn
Secretary: Pat Mabry

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.

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From the Co-Presidents...

Spring is in the air and it is hard to believe we only have two months of school remaining! We have had a busy year and accomplished so much already. But the PTA is still hard at work to improve the lives of our students and their families.

Our International Festival is right around the corner and if you have never attended before, please consider joining us this year. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the many cultures that make up our school community and the rich heritage that these families bring to our school. All Pro Dad has one more meeting on April 1st. The children have loved bringing their dads to school and having breakfast with them. Our new club for 4th and 5th graders, Planet Patrol, is up and running. Students are participating in experiments, planning field trips and learning how to take better care of our Earth. Check out their blog at <http://www.eastsideplanetpatrol.blogspot.com/>.

At the beginning of the year, we committed that we would work hard to use our financial and human resources wisely. We were so pleased to partner with the Foundation to bring the Columbia Reading Institute to East Side in February. Our teachers received extensive training in reading techniques that address the needs of all learners. The PTA has also put over \$15,000 right back into the classroom for needed materials and curriculum. The Foundation and PTA have revamped the literacy

lab so that our teachers have appropriate reading level materials for all students and that it is easily accessible to them.

As we start thinking ahead to our new school, the PTA is excited about the opportunities we have on the horizon. We are making plans now for programs and events for the 2011-2012 year, and if you would like to be a part of our PTA board of directors, please email us at president@eastsideelementary.com. We need the involvement of all parents to make our school the best it can be!

Toria Peterson and Jill Butler



East Side Celebration

After much anticipation, our new school is almost complete. We will move into the new building in the fall, but before we do, we would all like to say good-bye to our old, beloved building. East Side was constructed in 1952 and it has grown and changed over the last 59 years. It has gone from a small neighborhood school to a school that has over 1000 students.

On May 5th, we are planning an East Side Celebration to look back over the last 60 years and remember with

fondness all that has happened in our wonderful school. Please join us from 5:30-8 pm as we celebrate East Side. We will have music, historic memorabilia, children's art work, and refreshments. It will be our community's last walk-through before we move on to our bigger and better new building. Mark your calendars now and plan to say "thanks for the memories, East Side!"

Honoring Our Heroes Essay Winners!

One hundred and eighty five East Side students participated this year and wrote outstanding essays about the real heroes in their lives.

And the winners are . . .

Kindergarten:

1st - Mikayla Stoltz
2nd - Grant Leslie

First Grade:

1st - Connor Pyburn
2nd - Siya Thadani
3rd - Taylor McCann

Second Grade:

1st - Sara Thadani
2nd - Olivia Dao
3rd - Naila Halle Julien

Third Grade:

1st - Cameron Rogers
2nd - Anjali Chareddy
3rd - Adriel Santos

Fourth Grade:

1st - Avni Sawant
2nd - Jenna Lief
3rd - Soichiro Shin

Fifth Grade:

1st - Diane Kang
2nd - Tiffany Jeng
3rd - Harper Barbaree

The following students will represent East Side at the Heroes Reception on March 31st at JJ Daniel Middle School:

K-1st Grade - Connor Pyburn
2-3rd Grade - Cameron Rogers
4-5th Grade - Diane Kang

Columbia Training for Teachers: Grades K-5

Just recently, East Side Teachers have been able to benefit from trainings given by Elizabeth Dunford of Columbia Training. East Side's PTA and Foundation have partnered to pay for the expertise that Ms. Dunford has to offer. She specializes in training of reading readiness, reading skills, comprehension and evaluation tools. Teachers in grades K-5 have benefited from the trainings Ms. Dunford has provided these past few weeks and will continue to receive trainings during the last weeks of March. The teachers welcome the expertise Ms. Dunford has given, providing crucial reading assessments & interventions to be done within the classroom setting. The training has been a unique experience for the teachers as we have been able to listen to research based instruction, see it in action within the classroom setting (or "lab site" as Ms. Dunford calls it), and then try it ourselves. The classroom "lab setting" provides an invaluable venue for the teachers to see, learn, and do!

The staff at East Side are very thankful to have such a supportive PTA and Foundation. We hope that parents will be able to see how their children have benefited from their teachers having this training opportunity.

by: Deborah Stephens

Congratulations to the East Side Elementary Chess Teams!

East Side entered two teams in the Western Metropolitan Atlanta Regional Scholastic Team chess tournament. The elementary (K-5) team Took 1st place out of 32 teams, while the primary (K-3) team finished 2nd place out of twenty-nine teams. With such amazing finishes, both teams receive an invitation to the state championships in March!

Congratulations to the members of both teams:

Justin Zhou, Khurram Yamin, Jayson Wu, Shikar Verma, Austin Towle, Bennett Taylor, Daniel Shu, Anthony Raksasouk, Marc Metcalf, Ralph Liu, Jacob Leung, Ethan Leingang, Cole Leingang, Kammen Illiev, Shawn Gu, Matthew Chvasta, and Alex Berezovsky.

Toner recycling

Please remember that you can recycle your toner cartridges easily at East Side Elementary. The bin is by the Media Center and it is not only for the schools use, but parents can bring them in from home and work. Thanks!

IXL Math Marathon Underway!

The East Side Foundation's IXL Math Marathon is currently underway! Don't forget, your child can login from school or home to earn points for their class until the end of the day Friday, March 25th.

What is IXL Math? It's online math games that students play to improve their math fluency and boost confidence and achievement (great since CRCTs are just around the corner!!). Students earn electronic points for each level completed. Games can be played on any computer with internet access (go to <http://www.ixl.com/> and use the personal login provided by your child's teacher). ALL players should experience measurable improvement in numerical fluency, and increased speed. Most of all, kids learn while having FUN!

Each grade level will have a weekly class winner for the highest average # of points per student that week. Last week's prize was a cookie cake party...will your child's classroom win this week's prize of a pizza party? The child with the most overall points earned in the two week period also wins a \$50 gift card to Lakeshore Learning Store! Plus, a trophy for the Grand Prize will be awarded to ONE class with highest average # of points per student earned in the entire two week period. Will YOUR child's class be the East Side IXL Math Grand Champion this year??

Fresh Fruit Fridays Coming Soon to East Side

The East Side Elementary Health and Wellness Committee, partnered with Harry's Farmer's Market, will soon be bringing fresh fruit to our school hallways. Starting Friday, March 25th we will begin Fresh Fruit Fridays, and have the ultimate "grab and go" snack available to our children. We are excited about this opportunity to raise awareness on how easy, tasty and satisfying grabbing a piece of fresh fruit can be for a healthy snack. Bins of fruit will be located in the front hall, near the cafeteria, in the 3rd Grade hallway and the 5th grade building, ensuring ease of access for all the children. Here's to their health!

International Festival: Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 5-8 p.m.

Travel Around the World without a Passport or a Visa!

This fantastic event begins with food from around the world and a fashion show; followed by music, dance and other performing arts representing various parts of the world.

International Festival has been received with enthusiasm in the past and the PTA looks forward to presenting one for current school year. It typically lasts for 2-3 hours.

Stage Performances: Please sign up with Nimmy by March 15 (nimmy73@gmail.com/404-287-2514)

Contact your Country Representatives to volunteer: Volunteer List <https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=explorer&chrome=true&srcid=0B7vkFSm7Q90-Y2RjOTk2MzEtYWFiYi00MGUwLWFmMmUtNWRhNmJiN2U2ZDhl&hl=en&authkey=COuChtgB>. Ticket Purchase forms have gone home in the student folders. Please send

them back with payments as soon as possible. If you did not get the form, or misplaced it, please use this Ticket Form http://eastsideelementary.com/PTA%20Forms/2010_2011/IntFestTickets.pdf

Questions, please contact Ram Mallappa (InternationalFestival@eastsideelementary.com 404-643-7269).



Under the Gold Dome

Legislation & Advocacy Committee

Representatives from East Side Elementary PTA joined over 300 fellow PTA members from across the state for "PTA Day at the Capitol" on March 2nd. An annual tradition, this day provides an opportunity for advocates to obtain the latest information on bills and issues that PTA is tracking, watch the general sessions in action, meet with elected officials and network.

To review, Georgia PTA members are polled in early fall and asked to rank the legislative priorities that they would like to see the state legislation team work on. These priorities give a framework that is used all year long to guide advocates in their work. These can be found on the East Side PTA website as well as the Georgia PTA website (<http://www.georgiapta.org/issues-legislative-priorities.html>).

The budget remains a top concern for everyone and attendees received a detailed report from Georgia Budget & Policy Institute Executive Director Alan Essig about the budget. See <http://www.gbpi.org/> and track information so you can see the latest developments on the Georgia budget. The state budget has the largest and most direct impact on our school district's funding. You can track CCSD budgets via the District website. At this point, CCSD officials are using an assumption of a

5% decline in state revenues for the 2011-12 school year. That leaves a budget deficit of \$25-30 million. Again, this is an early estimate, but worth noting. Contact Scott Sweeney, our Post 6 Board of Education Member, and let him know what your funding priorities are. His contact information is ssweeney.boardmember@cobbk12.org or 678-646-2470.

In a highlight, Governor Nathan Deal signed a proclamation for PTA Membership Day on March 2nd, 2011 and joined our state's Birney-Butler PTA unit. The Hope Scholarship was a topic of discussion both in the briefing and in conversation with elected officials. Go to Capitol Watch on the Georgia PTA website (<http://www.georgiapta.org/>) and view the March 1 article for the most recent proposed changes at the time of publication. Capitol Watch gives you a daily summary of activity. It is available to everyone who wishes to stay up to date and informed about the state legislative process and the impact that has on the education, health and safety of our children.

Everyone can be an advocate - it's not just an activity that is reserved for "other" PTA members. Each one of us has an issue that we are passionate about - whether it is nutrition, curriculum, health, the arts, athletics or textbooks. Whether it is speaking to a teacher, administrator, elected official or appointed person, you can be advocate for your child and the issues that are important to you. Your passion and enthusiasm will allow you to spring into action and carry you forward. Questions or comments? Want to be involved? Please contact us at legislationandadvocacy@eastsideelementary.com



The Tigers Cage

The Tiger's Cage School Supply Store is a popular spot to visit before school starts. We have lots of new products, and the Peppermint Smencils are back (only \$1 each). Shoppers can visit us by grade in the cafeteria from 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.

Classes can shop as follows:

Tues.- K & 3rd
Wed.- 2nd & 4th
Thurs.- 1st & 5th

Students love to shop for fun pencils, sharpeners, erasers, etc. It's a great way for them to learn how to budget their money for a special item. Items are priced from 5-cents to \$1.50. Please remind your child to check in with their teacher before coming to the Tiger's Cage. (4th graders can shop first, but need to leave time to make it to class!)

Thank you to the 5th Grade Students listed below who volunteered as student helpers.

NOTE to 2nd nine weeks' crew only -- if you did not use your \$1.50 Tiger's Cage credit, stop by the store and an adult volunteer will help you!

Jordan Allcorn	Catherine Fan	Mary Kate Peterson
Casey Barton	Kevin Fan	Mason Pisciotta
Nicole Benner	Braxton Fine	Grant Polinski
Erika Benner	Trevor Francis	Karishma Pradhan
Cameron Bloodworth	Payton Gregory	Lena Robbins
Claire Button	Susan Hatcher	Chandler Sherry
Lola Catoe	Tyler Hixon	Jack Steber
Katie Chatham	Tiffany Jeng	Benjamin Stone
Matt Chvasta	Shane Lieu	Iona Tan
Megan Cushing	Lauren Metcalf	Bennett Taylor
Avery Cybul	Livi Montanari	James Whittington
Angela Deng	Nick Morey	Iris Yin

And another big Thank You to the following Parent Volunteers who staffed the Tiger's Cage:

Rebecca Bennett
Kelley Costantino
Susan Fanning
Jennifer Gauntt
Glynis Holihan
Marcie Jones
Maha Krishnaswami
Meredith Lemmon
Yee Ling Lieu
Danielle Meihofner



Sock Hop

The Sock Hop was a huge success! Everyone bopped 'til they dropped! Over 700 people attended our annual dance.

We want to recognize the Sock Hop committee members who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful event.

Thanks to:

Susan LeBlanc
Maria Ambrosetti and Alex Drescher
Christine and Rob Stoltz
Denise Geiger
Kristin Morey
Elaine Wetzel
Laura Bango
Ashby Webber
Lori LaVoy

Susan LeBlanc with Monte Carlo Productions- thanks for the incredible scene setters, popcorn machine, and signs.

Lastly, all the parent and Walton volunteers. We truly could not have done this without you!

Thank you everyone for helping to make this such a memorable event for our kids!

East Side Writing Fair Winners:

K: "Super Bowl XLV"
by Athan Pohlman
1st: "If I had a Pet Penguin"
by Sofia Drescher
2nd: "Lillian's Georgia Surprise"
by Gillian Stoetz
4th: "Reflections of an Explorer"
by Grace Xu
5th: "Wouldn't It Be Great If..."
by Kate Aycock

6th Annual Taste of East Cobb

The 6th Annual Taste of East Cobb, a premier outdoor food festival and community event for tasters of all ages! Saturday May 7th, the Most Delicious Saturday of the Year! Merchants Walk Shopping Center, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm, rain or shine. Great food from great area restaurants. This event is a fundraising event for the Walton High School Band program. The Walton High School Band is nationally recognized as one of the leading High School Bands in the country. Live Music provided throughout the day. Also featuring a Silent Auction; "The Best of Taste of East Cobb" contest; a Kids Zone with Giant Inflatables, Face Painting and other family fun; Beverage & Dessert booths; Arts & Crafts; and much more! Tastes are \$1 to \$5, cash only. More info: Alan Abrams, alanrabrams@mindspring.com or www.tasteofeastcobb.com.



School Supplies and Registration for 2010-2011

As the 2010-2011 school year draws to a close, it is time to think about 2011-2012. If you have a rising Kindergartener at East Side, registration is March 30th. Here are the items you will need at registration:

1. Certificate of Immunization
2. Hearing, Dental, and Vision Screening Certificate (Georgia Form 3300)
3. Proof of Birthdate
4. Proof of Residency
5. Social Security Number

Be sure to make copies of all these documents before you come to expedite your process. After your child is registered, you will receive a packet of information about East Side and the Kindergarten program. In that folder will be a school supply order form. This is an optional service provided by your East Side PTA which will deliver all requested Kindergarten school supplies right to the school. A new addition to the Kindergarten supply list is a nap mat. In the past, the children only needed a pillow case on which to lie because every classroom had carpet. Our new school will not have carpet, thus explaining the need for a nap mat. The school supply company, School Tool Box, is offering, as an optional addition to your supply order, the nap mat for \$8 which is half the price found at Wal Mart! Below is the link to the order forms.

<http://eastsideelementary.com/resources/pta-forms/>

If you want to order the older grades' boxes, they can be found on the company's website <http://www.schooltoolbox.com/store/> register, and enter our school code 1ESID30062. Otherwise, the paper forms for the rest of the grades will be distributed after Spring Break. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Dobo at schoolsupplies@eastsideelementary.com.



Important Dates to Remember

March

Monday, 21st: Tiger Times Distributed
 Wednesday, 23rd: 10:00 am - PTA Board/Committee Chair Meeting
 Thursday, 24th: Report Cards Sent Home
 PTA Eat Out Night at Papa Johns
 Saturday, 26th: International Festival, 5-8 pm
 Wednesday, 30th: Kindergarten & New 1st Grade Registration, 8:30 - 11:30 am

April

Friday, 1st: All Pro Dads Cafeteria 7:00 am
 Junior Great Books ends
 Monday, 4th - 8th: Spring Break
 Tuesday, 12th: Willy's Eat Out Night 5-8 pm
 Tuesday, 19th: Cub Scout Pack 744 Meeting, 6:45 pm
 Wednesday, 20th: 9:45 am - PTA Executive Committee Meeting
 Waste Free Lunch Day
 Friday, 22nd: Tiger Times Deadline for Submissions
 Earth Day
 Good Friday
 Sunday, 24th: Easter
 Wednesday, 27th: 10:00 am - PTA Board/Committee Chair Crossover Meeting
 Thursday, 28th: PTA Eat Out Night at Papa Johns
 Friday, 29th: 5th Grade Panoramic Picture

May

Wednesday, 4th: Walk to School Day
 Thursday, 5th: PTA Meeting - East Side Celebration 5:30-8 pm
 Sunday, 8th: Mother's Day
 Monday, 9th: Volunteer Tea, 9-11 am
 Tiger Times Distributed
 Willy's Eat Out Night 5-8 pm
 Tuesday, 10th: Field Day Grades K & 1
 Tuesday, 17th: Cub Scout Pack 744 Meeting 6:45 pm
 Wednesday, 18th: Field Day Grades: 2 & 3
 Thursday, 19th: Field Day Grades: 4 & 5
 Monday, 23rd: Awards Day: 8 am (1st & 2nd)
 9 am (3rd & 4th)
 Tuesday, 24th: Awards Day 8 am (5th Grade)
 Fifth Grade Picnic
 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
 Wednesday 25th: Last Day of School!
 End of 9 week grading period
 5th Grade Walk of Honor at 1:45 pm



The Tiger Times is a publication of the East Side PTA.

The Tiger Times is designed and edited by Tabitha Varma

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Don't forget to submit your articles!

Please submit your articles for the next issue of the Tiger Times no later than Friday, April 22nd to tigertimes@eastsideelementary.com.