

TRAVERSE CITY EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL



2008-2009
POINTS OF PRIDE
(Current month in bold print)

ACADEMICS / STUDENTS

- Ten East students have been named 2008 Great Lakes Scholars. Students were nominated by staff and have earned a “B” average or higher and are involved in community service activities. The students are:
 - Andrew Bruning
 - Jessica Dancer
 - Michael Druskovich
 - Patrick Goodney
 - Hannah Lynch
 - Ian McGraw
 - Joe Murray
 - Eva Nienhouse
 - Cecily Olsen
 - Chelsea Reyher
- The EMS National Junior Honor Society is pleased to have 167 8th graders eligible for membership in November.
- Seventh Grade Student: Jillian Holstad, is a first place winner in the poetry category of the 2008 Leadership and Sustainability Multimedia contest. Jillian’s teacher, Nancy Fitzpatrick facilitated this opportunity for her students.
- Ivan Suminski is a first place winner in the 2008 Leadership and Sustainability Multimedia Contest. His entry was in the film category. His video was on alternate energies. Ms Fitzpatrick facilitated this opportunity for her students.
- National Junior Honors Society inducted 121 new members into the East Middle School Chapter.
- Top Ten Winners of “America and Me” essay contest:
We had 50 applicants and about 15 essays that could have been submitted. The top ten had intriguing introductions, clear thesis statements, vibrant details and voice that brought the story of the hero to life, and a conclusion that tugged on the readers' heartstrings. It will be very difficult to choose the top three of these excellent essays.
 - Megan Brown
 - Amanda Burns
 - Alex Gill
 - Lauren Marchany
 - Susan Roskelly
 - Allison Schultz
 - Ford Sheldon
 - Isabelle Sutherland
 - Nonie Tompkins
 - Miranda Winowiecki

- The following students are involved in a state-wide student composition contest and will be performing a piece written by Eighth Grade Student Paige Pfannenstiel.
 - Paige Pfannenstiel
 - Daniel Fedor
 - Molly Sawyer
 - Alec Reznich
 - Nonie Tompkins
 - Eva Nienhouse
 - Skylar Thompson
- November winners in the library: Vote for Books Contest winners Esperanza Pulido (6th grade) and Jonathon Felton (6th grade). Most Thankful winners include Tinotenda Musikavanhu (6th grade), Marie Laird (7th grade) and Holly Olson (8th grade).
- **The following students participated and earned a spot on the EMS Spelling Bee Team: *Kalvis Hornburg--CHAMPION!!***
 - Colin Huls*
 - Nonie Tompkins*
 - Noah Mitchell-Ward*
 - Joe Banish*
 - Leah Flesher*
 - Christine Twietmeyer, alternate*

COMMUNITY

- 6th, 7th and 8th Grade students participated in the United Way Sock Drive.
- 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Students participated in a used book drive to support the East Library annual fund-raiser (Craft Show).
- The following EMS students are in Willy Wonka which is put on by Traverse City Children's Theater: Abbey Kaufman, Maddi Morley, McKenna Cartwright, Katie Gallagher, Abigail Stanton, Isabelle Sutherland, Ben Cockfield, Colin Huls, Abigail Waggoner, and Veronica Fowler.
- East Middle School students in the Family and Consumer Science classes under the guidance of teachers Kate Smith and Kim Grennman, baked and delivered cookies to the community's homeless shelter (The Goodwill Inn).
- East Middle School winners of Traverse District Library's annual Poets' Night Out: Megan Ferris and Middi Battle (8th Grade) facilitated by Mrs. Judy Childs.
- EMS Students donated 260 pairs of socks to the United Way Sock Drive.
- 6th, 7th and 8th grade artwork on display for community viewing at the Ida Thompkins/Boardman Building.
- The EMS PTO funded \$1075.60 in mini-grants submitted by staff in support of School Improvement Goals.
- 8th Grade NJHS Members decorated 65 bags for the Grand Valley State Literacy Bag program.
- Lorraine Laird's class helped with the Knights of Columbus tootsie roll drive and was awarded a check for \$2,400.00 from the K of C to further

community based instruction and to purchase adapted materials for the classroom.

- All three EMS choirs caroled in different venues this weekend and did a great job. they received a donation from the Cherryland Mall business group and the 7th grade choir voted to donate a portion of the funds to the Salvation Army.
- East Middle School Student Councils held a food drive for area food banks.

STAFF

- Brandi Reynolds and Deb Pascoe awarded a \$487.75 grant from TBA Credit Union and MEEMIC Insurance Agency for innovative programming in 8th Grade Social Studies.
- Jeff Leonhardt attended *Between Lakes Writer's Conference* and the *Writer's Intensive Workshop*. Both were held at Interlochen Center for the Arts. Mr. Leonhardt is also scheduled to attend two *Writer's Retreats* through the *Crossroads Writing Project*. The first is in Tustin and takes place in November and the second is in Grand Haven and takes place in May.
- Ali Sullivan, 6th and 8th grade teacher has won 3rd place in the William J. Shaw Prize for Poetry in the Dunes Review.
- East Middle School's LMC staff organized a craft show to compliment the LMC's budget. Several staff members and students assisted with the craft show. It was well attended and once again a terrific benefit for the Library account.
- For the past two years, Jeff Leonhardt has been part of the Curriculum Advisory Committee (CAC) for the MEAP. He goes to Lansing 2-3 per year to advise Pearson, the test maker, on content, question acceptance or rejection and he has written questions for future test use.
- East received a grant for \$228 from Dennon Museum Center Educational Tour Fund to cover field trip expenses.
- The East Sixth Grade Principal and Counselor surveyed 94% of the sixth grade class and earned the following data:
 - 96.2% of the student body reflect they like coming to school.
 - 92.8% of the students feel that when they have a problem they have at least one adult on campus they are comfortable talking with.
 - 98.3% of the students feel safe at school.
- On Friday, November 7th, all EMS 7th Graders signed up for an enrichment activity led by wing staff during their Resource Period. Sessions included: Chess, Outdoor Initiatives, Baking, Fly Tying, and more!
- Eighth Grade Language Arts Teacher, Clair Taglauer will be participating in this year's presidential inauguration in January. She will pod-casting to East Middle School Students while in Washington D.C. to bring this event to the classrooms.
- EMS Journalism students attended a Middle School Journalism conference at MSU. Students attended breakout sessions on a variety of journalism topics. Yearbook advisor, Jody Mackey was the Keynote speaker for the event.

- **Amy Dunscombe earned several grants to assist her Cognitively Impaired students in accessing community resources and experiences. Grants she has written and won total \$4,450 this year.**

ATHLETICS

- 6th grade intramural programs have thirty-three percent of the sixth grade student body participating
- Fall athletes helped raise over \$7,500 for athletic equipment and apparel
- Michigan State University Women's Basketball Coach Suzy Merchant attends East Middle School as a guest speaker
- 7th Grade Girl's Volleyball wins Petoskey and Gaylord Invitationals. 8th Grade Girl's Volleyball places 2nd in both as well.
- Boy's and Girl's Cross Country win Big North Conference Meet at Cadillac. The boys cross country team are the Big North Conference Champions, the Traverse City Central Invitational Champions, the Gaylord Invitational runners-up and finished 3rd in the Elk Rapids Invitational and 5th in the Portage Invitational. Members of the team are Johnny Ackley, Lucas Corona, Zach Endres, Alex Gill, Jacob, Kenney, Colin Lesoski, Austin Mackey, Calvin Marois, Alec Reznich, Alex Sheridan, Trevor Stevens, Preston Zoellner, Yani Beeker, Chris, Bennet, Peter Jacobson, Max Knoblock, Brenn Olsen, Ben Rogers, Aaron Smits.
Johnny Ackley finished first in the T.C. Invite. the Gaylord Invite. and the Elk Rapids Invite he was also the Big North Conference cross country co-champion.
- During Session One of our first year of Sixth Grade Intramurals, 35% of the sixth grade class was involved in one of the opportunities.
- During Session Two of our first year of Sixth Grade Intramurals, 33% of the sixth grade class was involved in one of the opportunities.