

Fall 2013



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A Message from the Interim Superintendent

The academic year is well underway, and I'm confident it will be a very successful one for our schools and students. Of course, it will also be a year of transition. Our recently-retired Superintendent Dan Boyd has led this district admirably for the last nine years. The School Board has just begun the very difficult job of finding someone to fill his shoes. In the meantime, I'm honored to serve as Interim Superintendent of Alachua County Public Schools.

I'm committed to maintaining the momentum we've built under Dr. Boyd's leadership. Of course, there will be challenges. One of the most significant is the move to the Common Core Standards (CCS) and the issues surrounding that move, especially in light of Florida's recent decision to pull out of the consortium developing new tests aligned to the CCS. The state is also planning to hold public hearings about CCS this fall.

In the meantime, we will continue to follow the state's timetable for implementing the Common Core Standards. We have been phasing them in for the last two years, beginning with the earlier grades, and are working toward full implementation by 2014-15 as required by Florida law.

We will certainly continue to monitor the activity in Tallahassee regarding CCS, testing and other educational issues. However, I want to assure you that our schools, teachers and staff will maintain the focus on our primary mission of providing students with a high-quality education that will prepare them for future success.

Thank you for your support of our schools and I wish you and your student a very productive school year!

Hershel Lyons

Interim Superintendent

Alachua County Public Schools

Key Club News

Here at Eastside, Key Club is working hard to make our school and community a better place! We participate in many activities, ranging from tutoring in the tech lab to helping kids at Lake Forest Elementary School improve their reading abilities.

We want to support our school and the neighboring elementary school, Lake Forest. Key Club tutors other EHS students when they need help and, until the school district took over recycling, collected recyclables around the school to make Eastside a greener place! At Lake Forest, dedicated Teen Trendsetters mentor struggling readers and, on Fridays Key Club sets up arts and crafts activities for the kids

Not only does Key Club help schools, we also help our community and neighbors. Key Club is involved in numerous fundraisers, for causes such as the Alachua County Council of the Blind and the Micanopy Fire Department. Key Club is also involved in HIPPO, a parenting class program, where Eastside volunteers take care of children while the parents take parenting classes.

Key Club is always proud to serve; helping others is our passion! As said by Wenli Zhao, a dedicated Key Clubber, "It always makes you feel great knowing you're making a real difference and giving back to the community!"

Art Work of Deidra Young



Institute of Culinary Arts

Culinary students hit the BBQ circuit. Titledown Hoedown for Early Learning Coalition

BBQ everywhere and so very much to eat. If you missed the Titledown Hoedown mark it for next year. Twelve culinary and hospitality students volunteered their time on Sunday, October 20th to work with the Titledown Hoedown. They worked with top restaurants, caterers, and individual.

Students helped cook BBQ, pulled pork, set up and broke down tents. Students also ran samples of BBQ to the judges including: ribs, beef, pork, poultry and hot and cold sides.

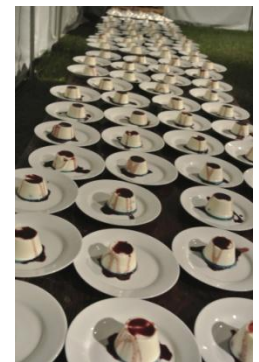
The event was held at the Rembert Farm in Alachua and was a fundraiser for The Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County which strives to give children the best start in school possible by making sure they are prepared to enter kindergarten.

Culinary Students helping with Noche de Gala 2013

Where can you find Ice Carved Palm Trees, ice bars, live entertainment, a silent auction featuring unique and extraordinary items, a Champion Paso Fino horse show, exquisite dining by Embers Wood Grill AND 20 Eastside students prepping and cooking? Noche de Gala Oasis, the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation's annual fundraising event, which has become a standalone event, unsurpassed in our region. Sebastian Ferrero Foundation continues to support the UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.

Eastside students work with Chef Briton Dumas, a former Eastside culinary graduate, and present executive chef and owner of Embers Restaurant. Working with Chef Dumas the students assisted in an exquisite meal for 1000 guests on Saturday, October 26, 2013. The event started at 7:00 P.M. and Eastside students travelled out to Besilu, located in Micanopy, FL, which is a spectacular 642-acre farm. Students began around 2:00 in the afternoon and ended after midnight.

The mission of the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation is to advocate and fundraise for a state-of-the-art, full service children's hospital in Gainesville, Florida. To date, the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation has raised close to \$7 Million in contributions.



Drama



Cast of Jesus Christ Superstar

Special Performances by the EHS Chamber Singers

The Chamber Singers were invited to perform at the University of Florida Invitational Choral Festival on October 17. The students performed 2 pieces individually and then participated in master classes and a mass choir performance. They had a wonderful day with UF students and faculty and learned a lot about choral music.

On December 12, the students will travel to Disney World to participate in the Disney Candlelight Processional. They were selected to perform in two shows with other students from around Florida and the nation. Congratulations to the Chamber Singers!

The Chamber Singers Winter Concert is December 10 at 7pm in the EHS Auditorium. Admission is free. Come out and enjoy some festive holiday music!



My College Tour Experience

Recently, members from Diamonds and Pre-Collegiate began the **2013-14 College Tour** series with tours of University of North Florida and Edward Waters College. The University of North Florida (UNF) is one of the 12 public state universities located in Jacksonville, Florida. Forbes Magazine has named UNF the No. 19 Best College Buy, Best College in America and Best College in the South. UNF is considered a mid-size university with total enrollment in fall 2012 of 16,356.

Admissions criteria is competitive with an average GPA of 3.5-4.3, average SAT (Reading & Math) of 1140-1280 and average ACT (Reading, English, Math & Science) of 25-28 for the incoming freshmen class of 2012. It should be noted that 41% of the students that apply are admitted. Flagship programs and majors include Business, Coastal Biology, Nursing, Transportation and Logistics, International Business, and Music Performance. Priority admission deadline is November 18 with final fall deadline May 1. The estimated cost of tuition and fees per year is \$6235 with an estimated cost of attendance of \$12,335. The University of North Florida has a very diverse student body with over 200 student organizations, gym / fitness services, child care services, medical services and on-campus housing. The university is a member of the NCAA Division I and Atlantic Sun Conference and team mascot is the Osprey. The top sports include baseball, basketball, cross-country, golf and soccer.

Attending her first college tour, Brittiana Turk wrote about her tour experience during the information session of the tour. *“The admissions presenter sparked my attention when she said, “The beach is close to the campus.” I also became excited when I first saw University of North Florida campus, on the campus tour.”* UNF has a beautiful campus. It is built on a wildlife and bird sanctuary with many natural trails, recreation and environmental programs. She also wrote, *“University of North Florida also known as UNF was the college that caught my attention. UNF has some awesome classes and even awesome professors, and the campus is very well put together. I really love the fact that you are able to get a job on the campus, and the studies that I want are offered there as well.”*

Brittiana also toured Edward Waters College (EWC), a private, historically black college also located in Jacksonville, Florida. EWC was founded in 1866 to educate newly freed slaves; it is Jacksonville’s oldest institution of higher learning as well as the oldest historically black college in the state of Florida. Considered a small college, EWC’s total enrollment is about 800 students.

At EWC, students with an average GPA of 2.5 are considered for regular admission while students with a GPA of 2.0-2.49 are provisionally admitted. There is no minimum ACT or SAT score required, however, students must submit a score report. The average admission criterion for a student at EWC is a GPA of 2.9, an average SAT of 760 or an average ACT of 16. Deadline for fall enrollment is April 15. The admissions rate is 23% and the cost of attendance is estimated at \$18,481 per year. EWC awards bachelor degrees in the following majors: Biology, Business Administration, Communications, Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, Mathematics, Music and Psychology.

Student activities at Edward Waters include: Academic Honor Societies, Fraternities (Social), Marching Band, Professional Associations, Sororities (Social), and Student Government Association. Student on-campus housing is available. The college is a member of the NAIA Division I and Gulf Coast Atlantic Conference team mascot is the Tiger. The men and women sports include football, baseball, softball, basketball, cross-country track & field, volleyball, and golf.

Brittiana was shocked when the EWC admissions representative stated that *“some of your classes will be by Popeye’s.”* She would discover that EWC is located in an urban community. Something Brittiana loves about Edward Waters is that *“the Administrators seemed to really care about your future.”* She also indicated that EWC would not be a good fit for her because she wants to study medical health and they do not offer that degree of study. While doing research on EWC, she did find that the job market is beginning to open up for their graduates.



Students learned the osprey swoop and chant while at the Osprey statue on campus.

Thank You

Mr. Rob Moramarco and his Geometry, Algebra 2, and Math for College Readiness students would like to publically thank Cox Communications, Ms. Patty Fryer Sullivan, the Board of Directors at the Education Foundation of Alachua County, and the Parent Teacher Student Association of Eastside High School for their generous donations totaling almost \$1000.00 through the FIND IT/FUND IT grants at the Education Foundation of Alachua County and through the P.T.S.A Teacher Wish List program. Cox Communications sponsored a grant for a class set of 30 TI-30X IIS calculator. Ms. Fryer-Sullivan sponsored the purchase of a new printer/scanner/copier, black and color ink, and some printer paper for the classroom AND a “Livescribe Smart Pen” and its accessories. The P.T.S.A sponsored a grant to purchase additional supplies and equipment for the classroom including student response dry erase boards and markers. Last, but certainly not least, The Board of Directors at the Education Foundation of Alachua County sponsored a grant for a class set of compass/protractor sets for Geometry students to use during class. Thank you for your support of Eastside High School.

Faculty News

Faculty members Diana Rollo, Julie Greene and Amanda Shitama are currently teaching out of field in intensive reading. Diana Rollo taught reading/critical thinking in middle school, and Amanda Shitama taught reading at EHS last year. Both of these teachers are working with the district reading specialist and getting support for implementing the district’s new reading curriculum. Julie Greene is teaching on the 9th grade block and is an experienced language arts teacher. Judy Boucias is currently out of field for ESOL but is working towards the endorsement.

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