

Fall 2014



## Annual School Status Report

Our annual school status report, known as the School Public Accountability Report (SPAR), has been released. Parents are invited to view the report from a link on the school website. It contains information on student performance and demographics for the school and district.

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## Important Dates To Remember

### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> - Algebra EOC Retakes

3<sup>rd</sup> - Geometry EOC Retakes

3<sup>rd</sup> - Biology EOC Retakes and for 9<sup>th</sup> grade Blocks students

4<sup>th</sup> - PERT Test for 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders needing Algebra EOC score

5<sup>th</sup> - Progress Reports

6<sup>th</sup> - SAT

13<sup>th</sup> - ACT

7<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> - Midterm & Final Exams

22<sup>nd</sup> – Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Winter Break

29<sup>th</sup> - Deadline to sign up for the January SAT

### **January**

5<sup>th</sup> - Classes resume

15<sup>th</sup> - End of first semester

16<sup>th</sup> - No school/Teacher Workday

19<sup>th</sup> – Holiday - ML King Day

20<sup>th</sup> - Begin second semester

29<sup>th</sup> - Report cards go home

## Eastside National Scholars



Eastside Students Named National Scholars Eastside seniors were recently recognized for achievement among the top one percent of academically talented students in the nation. Twelve seniors were named National Merit Scholar semifinalists, two National Achievement Scholars, and four National Hispanic Scholars. Over 1.4 million students entered the qualifying program by taking the PSAT. Of that group, 16,200 were named semifinalists. The students must maintain strong GPAs and score well on the SAT test in order to qualify as finalists and be eligible for scholarships. The National Merit semifinalists are Meenakshi Bose, Camille Kima, Kelly Lampotang, Shannon Liu, Sarah Lulu, Megan Mathew, Meghan McCallister, Maria Merolle, Emily Pak, Miltiades Pardalos, Yong Shan, and Jess Smith. The National Achievement semifinalists are Camille Kima and Janelle Taylor. The National Hispanic Scholars are Jacquelyn Kessler, Rachel Kyes, Maria Merolle, and Matthew Naranjo.

## Boys Tennis



The Eastside High School boys' tennis team has been named the 2014 Academic Team Champions by the Florida High School Athletic Association. Team members are Ben Brandt, Sam Cockey, Ryan Joo, Kevin Peng, Camille Kima, and Derek Li. Not pictured is Maxwell Curtis, who now attends Georgia Tech University in Atlanta. The team's unweighted grade point average of 3.97 is the highest of all highest of all high school tennis teams in the state, which demonstrates their prowess both on the courts and in the classroom.

## Eastside Striders

### ***Celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> year with Huge Strides***

*By: Danielle Dede*

Celebrating their 5th year, Eastside Striders go beyond the school walls to reach out to local breast cancer survivors through the Annual Survivor Brunch and raise funds for research and support through the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. The Breast Cancer Awareness Club at Eastside, which started in 2010 by Raisa Alstodt (Class of 2012) with only 30 members, now consists of over 100 members and is the second largest club at Eastside High School, after Student Government. The club is sponsored by Sophomore/Senior IB Spanish teacher, Señora María Zelaya (pictured front, center) but is mainly student run by seniors: Megan Mathew (President), Briana Fletcher (Survivor Chair), and Jacqueline Kessler (Vice President for Fundraising). Beginning in the summer until the end of the October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the club turns the school pink to raise funds with bimonthly bake sales, Moe's Fundraiser Nights, a huge potluck, and this year, a competition among the homerooms. In September, the Striders partnered with the local American Cancer Society to host the annual brunch at the UF Cancer Hospital for breast cancer survivors in the community. This year, the brunch was put on entirely by the Eastside students through donations from local businesses and club members for brunch food, gift cards, artistic door prizes, handmade centerpieces, hand-knitted ear-warmers, and entertainment. Following the brunch, the Striders directed their focus to fundraising. After years of just raising about \$3,000, this year has been especially successful for the Striders. On October 25<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk by the American Cancer Society, it was announced that the Eastside Striders had raised \$8,325.86, with a special thanks to a \$1,000 donation from All About Women, OB & GYN. As the Top Youth Team and 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall Team, the Eastside Striders made history and are hoping to make even larger strides in coming years.



## Chorus News

The Eastside High School Choral program is off to a great start this school year. Students from the Chamber Singers and the Concert Chorus have been selected to perform at Disney World for the Candlelight Processional at Epcot Center on December 8. The students will perform with other selected high school choirs, as well as the Disney professional chorus and orchestra in a program filled with beautiful holiday music.

The Chamber Singers were invited to participate in the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Invitational Choral Festival at the University of Florida School of Music on October 23, 2014. It was a wonderful day of music making and learning alongside five other choirs from around the state, UF faculty, and UF music students. The Chamber Singers performed two individual numbers on the afternoon concert and finished out the day with two mass choir numbers.

Upcoming performances for the choruses:

- December 11, 2014 Winter Chorus Concert 7pm EHS Auditorium – free admission  
December 14, 2014 Holiday Traditions for STOP! Children’s Cancer 4pm Phillips CPA  
tickets can be purchased from the Phillips Center box office



## Math News

### **Math Department Receives Grant**

The Eastside High School Math Department received a \$120 grant through the Find It & Fund It Grant at the Education Foundation of Alachua County! The \$120 was used to order a class set of the eight (8) Mathematical Practice posters for each of the 13 Math teachers and a set for the Eastside High School Media Center. The grant was 50% funded by Paul and Simone Garner and 50% by the Education Foundation of Alachua County! The Eastside High School Math Department thanks you for your generous support!

### **Rob Moramarco's Math Class Receives Additional Grant**

Mr. Moramarco's Math for College Readiness and Geometry classes received an additional \$110 grant to help fund paper and ink for the classroom copier/scanner/printer all-in-one from Paul and Simone Garner! Mr. Moramarco and his students sincerely thank Mr. and Mrs. Garner for their kindness generous support through the Find It & Fund It at the Education Foundation of Alachua County! Additional grant requests from teachers at Eastside High School can be found at [EDFOUNDATIONAC.ORG/finditfundit/](http://EDFOUNDATIONAC.ORG/finditfundit/)

## Cross Country



The Boys and Girls Cross Country teams had a successful season. Both teams were district champions with 12 runners earning all district honors. The girls were also the region champion with three girls earning all region honors. Both teams qualified to run in the state meet and had respectful finishes with seven runners running personal best times.

## Senior News

### ***Senior IB Theory of Knowledge Overnight Trip***

by Dwight L. Schmidt

The IB Diploma senior students taking Theory of Knowledge (ToK) spent October 15 and 16 at Camp McConnell in Micanopy to work on ToK concepts and practices. The Theory of Knowledge course is one of the core elements of the IB educational curriculum in that it encourages students to contemplate the nature of knowledge and how humans process and understand what we claim to know. The camp activities were designed to help students specifically prepare for writing a ToK essay on a knowledge topic and begin to think about a second assessment that will be made in a few months.

Time was provided for seniors to peer edit draft essays, but the highlights of the overnight trip were provided by two University of Florida professors who graciously shared their time and research experiences.

Dr. Rick Rhiengans (Center for Africans Studies) works on sanitation and hygiene efforts in developing nations, and discussed how indigenous cultural practices in Kenya and India related to water use and hygiene proved to be challenges to scientifically-based efforts to improve sanitation conditions there. His fieldwork emphasizes that despite the best intentions of Western aid to developing nations, cultural and economic realities can lead to unexpected results and need to be taken into account in designing sanitation and water programs.

Dr. Gerald Murray, professor emeritus of Applied Anthropology, discussed the fascinating details of a court case in which he testified as a social scientist. The case involved a Haitian man accused of killing his wife who happened to be a vodou priestess. The case pitted three different knowledge systems against each other: US law based upon the rule of reason, the indigenous Haitian vodou religion, and the social science of anthropology. Dr. Murray had the seniors discuss and then decide the case's outcome.

Not every moment was given to intensive thinking about knowledge! Time was given to just having fun, including archery, swimming and some wicked games of dodgeball.

The ToK essays are the most significant of two ToK assessments required to earn the IB Diploma. On the second day of the trip, the seniors were introduced to the second assessment, a presentation in which they will take a real life issue and develop its knowledge aspects and implications. The presentation will be completed in January and presented in IB and pre-IB classes.

### ***Graduation News***

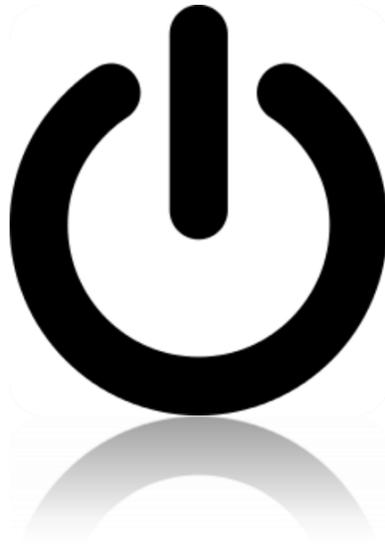
Graduation will be held at the Phillips Performing Arts Center (PAC) this year due to construction at the O'Connell Center. There are some changes to graduation that will affect attendance to the ceremony.

Please read below:

1. Graduation Practice will be at the PAC on June 3rd at 9am.
2. Graduation will be on June 3rd at 7pm at the PAC. Graduates will need to be there an hour and half before the ceremony begins (5:30pm).
3. Each graduate will be given tickets from the PAC to attend the ceremony. Each Graduate will ONLY be given 5 tickets. If other graduates are not using their extra tickets they can give them to other graduates or turn them back into the school for a lottery of additional tickets. Tickets will not be given out until very close to the ceremony.
4. If a patron does not have a ticket to enter the building for the ceremony, they will NOT be allowed to enter.

## YEARBOOKS

**POWER UP THE SCHOOL YEAR**



**Order your YEARBOOK today.**

**[WWW.SMART-PAY.COM](http://WWW.SMART-PAY.COM)**

**Memory pages available, too!**



# *Fine Arts Events*

## *Chamber Singers Winter Concert*

December 11, 2014 7:00 PM Admission is Free

## *Band Winter Concert*

December 12, 2014 7:00 PM Admission is Free

## *Ragtime In Concert*

Musical Theater Production

April 16-18, 2015 7:00 PM Cost \$10.00

Featuring the EHS Drama and Chorus

## *Chamber Singers Spring Concert*

April 30, 2015 7:00 PM Admission is Free