

SEPTEMBER WILDCAT

The Place for All Things EWMS



Important Dates at a Glance:

- September 20th: Open House @ EWMS 6:00pm-7:30pm
- September 18th-28th: STAR Testing
- October 2nd: Picture Day!!

Superintendent's Corner

Welcome back! It is an exciting time to be part of the *East Windsor Public Schools*.

We are all excited about the work we have ahead of us this year and want to thank all the parents/guardians for getting students ready and excited for school.

I am encouraging all families to review their contact information we have on file so that we are able to get in touch with you. It is extremely important that staff are able to contact a parent/guardian or trusted adult in the event we need to call due to illness or other important matters – or to share good news about something happening for your child!

Unfortunately, we started this school year with some unusual heat and the resulting early dismissal. It is a bit early, but I wanted to take a minute to share my approach to weather-related decisions. I believe that our students are better off being in school, but my first priority is to the safety of students and staff. I consider multiple factors when making decisions about school being in session – including delays, early dismissals, and cancellations. Some of these factors include the forecast, building/parking lot conditions, and road conditions. I respect, that at times, you may disagree with my decision. In those cases, I encourage you to make the decision you feel is best for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I thank you in advance for your support as we progress through the year.

Christine DeBarge, Ed.D

Please join me in congratulating Tamara Hoang, Special Education teacher at East Windsor Middle School, who was named East Windsor Teacher of the Year for 2019. Thank you for your caring and commitment to the students and entire East Windsor community.

Please keep watching the district website at www.eastwindsork12.org for information about our Strategic Plan initiatives, opportunities for parent involvement, and information about the exciting events happening in all of our schools.

I hope everyone had a wonderful start to their year!

WORDS FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Principal's Message for September 2018

Welcome back East Windsor Middle School,

The first week was very warm and sticky. I was amazed by the flexibility of our students, families and staff on these humid days. It was great to see!

Our staff continued the Walkway Welcome this year as a great start to the year. As an added positive, sayings were written in chalk to welcome all of our students to their first day of the 2018-2019 school year at EWMS. These messages were inspirational and an amazing way to start the school year on such a positive note.

Over the summer we had three new hires at EWMS.

- Mrs. Lipmann and Ms. Jubrey joined our 8th grade team as ELA teachers.
- Mrs. Willey from Broad Brook Elementary joined the 6th grade team as an ELA teacher.

On September 20th EWMS will have our Open House from 6:00-7:30. We will be starting in the auditorium and then families will go and visit teachers. I hope to see many families there as we have some planned surprises at the end of the night.

During Open House I will be talking about the School Governance Council. SGC is comprised of elected parents, elected staff, administration, and community members. There is an opportunity for you to get involved this year! Meetings are monthly, October-May, on the second Thursday of the month from 5:45-7:00 p.m. (before the monthly PTO meeting). More information will be during the Open House

Picture day is October 2nd. We will continue what EWMS did last year and only have individual photos taken in the fall. In the spring, we will have grade level photos taken and, you will be able to order the grade level photo if you choose to in the spring.

Lastly, in our newsletter we are going to have a game called Guess Who. In this section students will try to guess which staff member is being discussed and they could win a prize if they get it correct.

Thank you again for being so flexible with this warm weather and I am excited about this upcoming school year. We have some amazing things planned for our students and can't wait for you to be a part of them.

Go Wildcats!!!!

Assistant Principal's Message

Social Emotional Learning Lesson for the Month of September

During September, middle school faculty and staff will be reinforcing **Self Awareness Skills** as they pertain to "The Way to Be"

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Productive
- Be Safe

Through our Advisory lessons (on Wednesday afternoons) and our Social Code of Conduct our goal is to work with students to establish and maintain healthy and rewarding relationships with diverse individuals and groups. This includes communicating clearly, listening actively, cooperating, resisting inappropriate social pressure, negotiating conflict constructively, and seeking and offering help when needed.

During the month of September, we will be working on community building activities in the classroom to help the student recognize their emotions and the influence it has on their behavior with themselves and others. Our students are reviewing the EWMS guidelines and expectations in all of their classes while here at school. They are working with each of their teachers to focus their attention, and build their understanding of the rules by developing a social contract in their classrooms. Each student is encouraged to practice building their self-confidence daily by deepening their independent skills, getting to know themselves and others, their own feelings, and their reactions to different situations. It is important to understand reactions to social situations and academic challenges. This month and upcoming months, we will continue to revisit self-awareness and assessing our own strengths.

