

# East Middle School



April 2017

Leah Gonyeau, Principal | Larry Padgett, Assistant Principal | Selestina Sandoval, Secretary | Ruth Burkhart, Secretary

## Important Dates

### 7th Grade ELA/Math Testing

April 4th – April 6th, 2017  
9:43 am @ EMS

### 7th Grade CMAS

April 10th, 2017  
8:09 am @ EMS

### 8th Grade Career Fair

April 10th, 2017  
@ CMU

### 8th Grade ELA/Math Testing

April 11th – 13th, 2017  
9:43 am @ EMS

### 8th Grade CMAS

April 14th, 2017  
8:09 am @ EMS

### PTO Meeting

April 18th, 2017  
5:00 pm @ EMS Library

### Choir/Orchestra Concert 6th-8th

April 18th, 2017  
7:00 pm @ GJHS

### Colorado West Music Festival

April 20th – April 22nd, 2017  
@ CMU

### 5th Grade Visit

April 24th, 2017  
9:00 am @ EMS Gym

## A Message From Principal Leah Gonyeau

Dear Parents,

I hope you enjoyed the Spring Break weather Grand Junction afforded us over the break. There are several things coming up during the next 6 weeks of school that I would like to highlight; Besides testing – those schedules went home to families by email, but if you need a copy, please contact the main office and we will send one home – we have loads of opportunities for students to show what they have learned this year. On April 10th, our 8th grade students will be walking to Colorado Mesa University to take part in the Career Fair. Between April 19th and 21st, our music students will perform at the Colorado West Music Festival. They gain so much experience in this and have an opportunity to shine in front of all the schools performing. Our music directors have been working extremely hard to prepare students for this exposure.

We begin testing our 6th graders on March 28th, the Tuesday following our return from spring break. I am hoping that you will support the testing process and know that we have created a testing schedule that is the least intrusive one yet. I'm proud to say that in each of the last four years, we have spent our fundraising money, applied for grants, and have been supported by the D51 Foundation in acquiring more technology for our students. We have added at least one classroom set of Chromebooks in each year, which we can use to administer assessments. Why this is a celebration is that for the first time since we have gone to a digital testing format, we do not have to close the library or the computer lab for testing purposes. We will assess one grade level at a time and the other two grade levels will continue working on content and learning!! Our schedule even allows for students to attend their elective courses on days they are testing. I say this because our personnel use is stretched to accommodate all that is going on, while trying to maintain an academic environment for those not testing. Parent refusals for testing presents challenges in supervision for which our small setting struggles. I am asking that if you have questions about how we use the data, or if our school is impacted by low participation rates to please contact me and thanks for your consideration.

I would like to invite all parents to our PTO meeting on April 18th, at 5:00 in the library. This group is doing amazing things to support our school community this year and are

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selling tickets to the CMU baseball game on April 28th. This endeavor will raise funds for our PTO as every \$5 ticket will net us \$3 for our PTO. Please consider contacting our office to purchase your tickets. All individuals under 18 years of age receive free admission to CMU events. I would also like to invite any and all parents who are interested in participating in our School Advisory Committee, meeting for the last time this year on April 25th, at 6:00 PM also in the library. This committee is a valuable resource to us, when we consider making changes that affect our students. Topics for this meeting include scheduling for next year, PBL, and our shared vision process. I hope you can make it to hear what is going on and provide feedback to us regarding these big decisions.

On April 24th, we will be visiting with our incoming 6th graders at school. The elementary feeder schools will be transporting 6th graders to our school so that they can become familiar with our school and community, including their music choices for their 6th grade year. As we endeavor to create our shared vision with our students, staff, and parents, it became obvious to us that music is VERY important to our students. I am confident there is something for all students to participate in that scratches their musical itch!

An East Middle School tradition, Enrichment Day, is scheduled for May 3rd. This is a great opportunity for our students to be exposed to activities that the normal school curriculum and day may not afford. We will be finalizing our activity offerings and students will sign up for classes of their choosing shortly following our return to school. 8th grade will be choosing on April 5th, 7th grade on April 6th, and 6th grade on April 7th. There is a charge and other required safety equipment for some of the enrichments so make sure your student informs you of those. Staff and students are very much looking forward to this day. The High Ropes course is the most costly activity at \$20. There is no school on Thursday, May 4th as we are in school and district training, and Friday, May 5th.

Our last day for students includes a school wide assembly to recognize our 8th graders and the Yearbook Party. It has been an amazingly full year for us – one that I hope that your child has grown measurably and immeasurably from experiencing. Have a great Spring!

Sincerely,

Leah Gonyeau, Principal

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T H E R E ' S O N L Y O N E

## PTO News

We are selling tickets to the CMU baseball game on April 28th. We are doing this as a fundraiser for our PTO. Every \$5 ticket will net us \$3 profit. Contact the EMS office to purchase your tickets. Help us not only raise money, but to support CMU athletics!

## Sing-cerely Yours, Mrs. Quinn

Our festival concert will be Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00pm **IN THE GJHS AUDITORIUM!** All the choirs and orchestras will be performing in the Colorado West Music Invitational Festival on Thursday, April 20. Check the separate flyer that will be coming home with your student along with the permission slip. **WE NEED CHAPERONES FOR THIS EVENT! PLEASE CONTACT MRS. QUINN IF YOU CAN ASSIST.** We would LOVE to see parents in the audience as we perform for judges!!

Check the choir/orchestra room postings for camps this summer! Any student who participated in the Rock-A-Thon AND solo/small ensemble may apply for a scholarship in May to be used toward a summer camp or music related event over the summer.

### April

- 18 – Festival Choir/Orchestra Concert, 7:00pm (GJHS Auditorium)
- 20 – Colorado West Music Invitational Festival, Colorado Mesa University/Palisade High School (See flyers!)
- 24 – 5th Grade Concert, EMS 6th Graders Perform, Morning (Gym)

### May

- 2 – 6th Grade String Clinic, GJHS (Permission slips will be sent home!)
- 18 – Final Concert, 7:00pm

## East Middle School's 13th Annual Enrichment Day

Enrichment Day is just around the corner (Wednesday, May 3rd)! We have a great selection of classes to choose from and many community members that have volunteered to host a class. Thank you! If you would like to volunteer to help out on the day of the event, please email Mrs. Sleight at [tina.sleight@d51schools.org](mailto:tina.sleight@d51schools.org). You can help out in a class, or you can help by donating supplies (bottled water for staff and volunteers leading classes or supplies for classes like yarn, cookie decorations, cookies, etc.) or money for student scholarships. We are looking forward to this educational, fun day for the students.



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## Challenge Program

Notification of acceptance will go out on April 14th. See our website for more information <http://emschallengeprogram.wikispaces.com/>.



## Like us on Facebook!

We try our hardest to keep the lines of communication open with our students and families. We have moved away from paper communication and utilize text, email and social media. If you haven't done so already, please like us on Facebook. We post events, success stories, FYI's and reminders on our page that you may find useful.



<https://www.facebook.com/EMScheetahs/>

## Student Looking for a Mentor:

We have a 6th grade student here at East looking for an adult, college or high school mentor that is familiar with the language of Linux programming and the use of a Raspberry Pi. This student is at a standstill because there is an error in the loading of his software. If you know of someone, please contact Mrs. Sleigh at [tina.sleigh@d51schools.org](mailto:tina.sleigh@d51schools.org).

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Mrs. Sleight will have 6th grade GT students this quarter and they will work on an identity unit that involves working through and with the Brainology Program from Mind Set Works. Students in the GT elective are formally identified as gifted with an Advanced Learning Plan or, if space allows, they have been recommended by staff. Please email Mrs. Sleight if you have any questions about the GT program. 6th and 8th grade GT students competed at the 3rd annual Scholastica Tournament last month. We sent several students to the final round but did not bring home the trophy. We still had a ton of fun and won some cool prizes from The Jester's Court downtown!



## Throwback to 1984

EMS has been here for a long time! Check out these pictures from over 30 years ago!

Check out those shorts!



Rock- A-Thon, they used to stay ALL NIGHT!



EMS Gym



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1. Consider important college characteristics you want in a college
2. Understand your learning style and find colleges that embrace that
3. Prioritize and use the college characteristics as a filter when choosing your college list
4. Create a list that has two Safeties, three Targets, and two Reach colleges