

East Middle School



November 2016

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

Important Dates

Middle School In Service

November 11, 2016

PTO Meeting

November 15, 2016
4:15 pm @ EMS Library

Thanksgiving Break

November 21-November 25,
2016

School Advisory Committee

November 29, 2016
5:30 pm @ EMS Library

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A Message From Principal Leah Gonyeau

Dear East Middle School Families,

Recently, we conducted a lockdown drill at school. Through this process, we were able to identify some areas that we need to improve upon. One of those areas includes a new protocol for any security personnel, when clearing a room after a lockdown is called. According to our School District's Emergency Response Manual,

"A LOCKDOWN procedure is used when:

- In most situations it is considered safer to stay in a secure classroom or protected area when there is a potential threat (internal or external), dangerous condition (hazardous material spill), or severe weather that may be encountered and;
- There's no possibility of uncontrolled fire, explosion, or toxic chemical fumes.

Once a Lockdown is called, students and staff are to remain in Lockdown until law enforcement, fire personnel or District security unlocks the doors making face to face contact. At that time classrooms will be instructed to initiate a SHELTER IN PLACE procedure.

The Shelter-In-Place is appropriate in situations that might not have a potential risk to students or staff for harm or injury, but still allow for students to be kept in their assigned classroom, allowing instruction to carry on. New procedures prohibit students from leaving classrooms even if they wish to remain in the building – such as using the bathroom. Only a public address announcement would release students from Shelter-In-Place to normal operations, and no lockdown would be released into normal operations without being first placed into Shelter-In-Place.

An Evacuation shall be called for when the internal environment becomes too unsafe for students and staff to remain. Examples are chemical spill inside a room, flooding or gas leak. When evacuating the building consideration shall be given to the weather conditions, location of alternate site, and the duration of the evacuation. Whenever possible evacuation to the alternate site is strongly recommended for the purpose of safety, containment, and reunification of students and staff.

The purpose of a reunification is to assure that all students are accounted for and returned to their family after an incident at the school. A reunification can happen at the school or any site in to which the students and staff have been evacuated. During reunification, staff will establish an area where parents will enter the building and sign for their student. At East Middle, this area is at the main entrance, with parents lining up alongside the east wall of the office and in the direction of Gunnison Avenue. Staff will be assigned to these stations with writing utensils, access to student emergency contact information (hard copies or computer laptops) to help identify appropriate adults who are allowed to pick up students. It is required for parents or other adults to bring proper identification. Law enforcement or security will be staged at the parent check-in area.

Lastly, the District 51 Emergency Calling Plan is designed to ensure that a site administrator (Site Incident Commander) focuses on managing any emergency situation. Site administrators will only make one (1) phone call to alert the Safety & Security Director, who will notify the Executive Directors of Academic Achievement & Growth. District 51 will then notify essential personnel and get equipment or resources to the emergency site. The Site administrator should focus on managing the emergency situation until additional District 51 or emergency responders arrive. The Communications Office will provide information about the emergency through the district website and local media channels, and auto caller text messages as needed.

Please make sure you update our office with any phone or contact information change so that you can be notified in the event of an emergency. And, as always, if you have any questions regarding these safety procedures, don't hesitate to give us a call here at school. Thanks for your continued support of our students, this is a great place to learn.

Have a great start to the fall weather,

Leah Gonyeau,
Principal



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

NEWS from EMS PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization)

East Middle School has a newly formed PTO group. The PTO group will meet every third Tuesday of the month at 4:15 in the EMS school library. Our focus this year is fundraising, supporting the needs of EMS teachers (example classroom supplies, food for Parent/Teacher Conferences), and creating a parent/student/teacher relationship. We welcome all parents to join us at the next meeting!

Below are some of the wish lists/needs that teachers have currently at EMS. If you can help support or provide these items, please contact the EMS main office at 254-5020. Supplies and materials may be dropped off at the main office as well. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting which will be November 15th at 4:15.

EMS Library Wish List for PTO

Donated or New

- Legos of all sorts
- Recently published middle school and YA books - new or gently used (pages and covers in good condition):
- Most Desired Books:
 - Rick Riordan series (Lightning Thief series, Heroes of Olympus series, Magnus Chase series)
 - Jeff Kinney - Diary of a Wimpy Kid series
 - Harry Potter series
 - Veronica Roth - Divergent series
 - James Dashner - Maze Runner series
 - Ransom Riggs - Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children series
 - Any other current popular titles or series
- Vinyl Cutting machine

Volunteers

- Book check-out, shelving, facing and cleaning Mondays and Fridays. Would need training on library circulation software
- Scholastic Book Fair - October 26th - 27th 3:00 - 7:00
- Library Butterbraid Fundraiser - Organizing orders, distributing orders

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Sponsorship for Parent Information Nights

- Food and childcare for Information Night sessions - Possible topics:
- Screenagers movie screening (Avalon?) Go in with GJHS?
- Technology use - Apps and tech needed for school, safety and parental control
- EMS Vision - all voices heard
- PBL / Schoology LMS
- Others ideas?

EMS Tech Ed Wish List for PTO (Mr. Warner)

- Scroll Saw

EMS 6th grade ELA Wish List for PTO

6th Grade: After School Pen-Pal Reading. (Need volunteers to read a book over the phone to a student) Parent volunteers or can even be 8th graders. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursday's 2:45-3:30

From the Nurse

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

There have been several prescription medications found on students in the last several weeks, this is a suspendable offence. By state law a student may not carry prescription or non prescription medications at school unless they have a doctor order, parent permission, the original pharmacy packaging, and have met with the school nurse to cover medication safety and sign a medication carry contract. Students also may not be the ones to drop off or pick up medications from the health office. A parent or guardian must be the one to drop off or pick up medications from the school. Even if your student is not taking the medication during school hours they may not have medications in their pockets or backpacks to take after school hours. The health office is able to keep both prescription and non prescription medications for your student, with the correct paperwork in place, as needed. We realize there are special circumstances for individual students, so please contact the health office with how we can help you make sure your student is not carrying any medications with them on the school grounds. Thanks for your help in this!

We are now offering Tech Ed!

Dear Parents

I am very excited to be starting the second quarter of our Tech Engineering program. I am adding projects this time so students have a wider selection when taking the class. Donations to help out, would be lumber, like plywood or 2x4's, and tools such as saws, chisels, wrenches and screwdrivers. Specific tools I am looking for are a sewing machine and shop vac. Thank you for all the support so far, I am truly grateful.

Please contact Michael Warner with any questions you may have about this new program.

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

- Sports Physical Special: \$25! No appointment necessary. You do not have to be a current patient.
- General Health
- Prevention & Wellness
- Work/School/Travel Exam
- Acute Illness and Treatment
- Chronic Disease Management
- Medication Management
- Specialist Referrals



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Supporting our Students!

In our efforts to support students and their social/emotional growth, the EMS counseling department is offering various groups for students. These groups will run for approximately 8 weeks, are limited to 12 participants, and will be offered during the school day. If you are interested in having your student participate in one of these groups, please contact one of the counselors directly for more information.

Mrs. Sheffield- 254-5020 ext. 33125

Teresa.Sheffield@d51schools.org

Counselor for 7th and 8th graders

Mrs. Ritterbush-254-5020 ext. 33129

Dacia.Ritterbush@d51schools.org

Counselor for 6th graders and Challenge Program students

Grief Group-This group is for any student who has experienced the death of a special person. There are no limitations to attendance such as relationship to the deceased, the length of time since the death or the cause of death. Each session will include grief education and small group discussion.

Managing Emotions-The purpose of the group is to reduce instances of conflict, aggression and anger for students to assist them in being more successful in and out of the classroom. Group focuses on teaching and building social-emotional skills such as emotion regulation, identifying triggers, coping strategies and conflict-resolutions skills.

Girls Rock!-This group is designed to raise awareness, develop empathy, teach healthy conflict, explore feelings and promote a positive change in female relationships.

Changing Families- The group is open to students who have recently experienced a change in the family such as parental separation, divorce, or change of guardianship. Possible topics may include but are not limited to: defining divorce, identifying and coping with feelings, talking about changes, living in two houses, and moving forward.

Come to Maker Space / Open Shop

Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Warner will be featuring Maker Space / Open Shop sessions from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday November 9th and Wednesday November 30th. Explore robotics, circuitry, stop-motion animation, woodworking, 3-D printing and more. Hands-on activities will be set up in the EMS Library and the Tech Ed Room (modular). Come have fun and learn! Open to all EMS students and their families.



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Sing-cerely Yours, Mrs. Quinn

Congratulations to Hannah Brown, Dillon Cogley, Theresa Facun, Catherine Fletcher, Caelan Jessop, Rachel Larsen, Jonathan May, Madeline Mohler, August Pomrenke, Bella Sauvage and Luke Shrader for being selected to the District 51 Middle School Honor Orchestra! They will perform in concert on November 17 in the Grand Junction High School Auditorium at 7pm.

District Honor Choir auditions will be held in the choir room on Tuesday, November 8. Those students will need to wear their concert attire for the audition.

The next music parent meeting is on Monday, December 5 at 6:30pm in the band room. We will be discussing specifics of the Rock-a-Thon fundraiser.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00pm so you will be able to attend the choir/orchestra holiday concert AT GJHS IN THE AUDITORIUM!

A reminder that we need donations of white tops and black bottoms for students to use during our concert performances. The music department also accepts donations of instruments. Please contact Ms. Daigle or Mrs. Quinn for specifics.

Sing-cerely yours,
Mrs. Quinn

GT News:

Mrs. Sleigh is currently working with 7th grade GT students during electives. Next quarter, Mrs. Sleigh will have 8th grade GT students, and in 4th quarter she will have 6th grade GT students. The 7th grade students are learning about the Growth Mindset by Carol Dweck and playing games that challenge different learning styles. We just competed in our 3rd semi-annual Scholastica Tournament at Bookcliff Middle School on October 21st. GT students from all over the district competed in the tournament and several EMS students made it to the final round! Thank you BMS for hosting.



Stocking Stuffer Ideas

Seventh grade students are in need of pencils and earbuds. Students use technology daily and a pair of earbuds stored in their lockers would be great! Have students label the earbuds somehow for identification before sending them to school.