

East Junior High Career Fair



Before letting out for Holiday Break, East Junior High Students enjoyed their day by learning about different career paths. Annette Pugh, School Counselor, did an excellent job planning and getting it together for the students. Some of the vendors included, Senator Dolores Gresham, the Rise Foundation, the Fayette County Sheriffs Department, Children's Family Services, United Way, Well Child and many more.

Donuts with Dad at East Junior High



Annette Pugh (Guidance Counselor), Destiny Avant, Kyron Middlebrooks, Ronald Middlebrooks, Adreana Harris, Bob Collins, Samantha Kusber, Eric Kusber, Atlantis Thomas, Dowanda Turner, Terrance Green Jr., Terrance Green Sr., Jerlisa Hayslett, Jamillia Hayslett, Luther Scruggs, and Principal-Diane Watkins.

Last week on Wednesday, December 10, East Junior High hosted their first annual “Donuts with Dad.” The event allows for the students at East to enjoy the morning with their dad to talk about how their academic school year is going. Pictured, East Junior High students with their dads, School Counselor Annette Pugh and Principal Diane Watkins.

East Junior High receives Reward School sign



Pictured, Director of Schools Mr. James Teague, School Counselor Annette Pugh and Principal Ms. Diane Watkins

Last week, East Junior High received their Reward School banner to display at their school. They were chosen because they were in the top 10 percent of schools in Tennessee that met their success goals under the accountability system for the 2013-2014 school year. East Junior High is one of the 84 schools in Tennessee that landed under Reward School status for progress.



East Junior High Beta Club collected 1,462 food items for Fayette Cares. Pictured, Jaterius Gilliam, Cyrah Griggs, Jasmine Maness, MaTrevian Yates, Shakira Price, Diego Peeler, Landen Nichols, Matthew Atkinson, Robert Johnston, Jordan Blizzard, Kayla Jones and Brittney Douglas.

Fayette County Schools have been collecting food items for Feeding Fayette to help people in need this holiday season. Schools across the county collected over 10,000 food items and filled over 230 boxes. Collecting these food items was centered on teaching students the importance of helping others in their community.



On November 18, the RISE Foundation was at West and East Junior High meeting with students that are enrolled in the Goal Card program. This visit was just to allow coaches to meet with their students to make sure they are still working toward their goals that they made during the end of the last nine weeks.

“These students need us,” said Ms. Pattie Lessel, Vice President of the Bank of Fayette County, “they just need to know that someone is there to listen and give advice.”

Among the students at the middle schools are coaches from several different companies including Ring Container, Shelter Insurance, Regions Bank, Bank of Fayette County and MCR Safety.

East Jr. High school faculty and students want to congratulate the following students for

achieving Student of the Month of their grade level for the month of November. Their outstanding work ethic and behavior have contributed to their success. Keep up the awesome work!



6th grade: **Julian Rodriguez**



7th grade: **Jerlisa McNeil**



8th grade: **Jeremy Key**

East Jr. High Students of the Month



Ashanti Watkins - 6th grade



Katie Ayala - 8th grade



Fermin Ayala - 7th grade

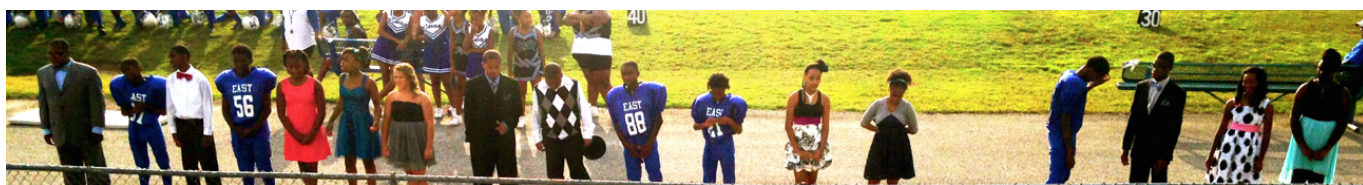
East Junior High Celebrated Homecoming





East Jr. High celebrated their Homecoming last week. They had several dress up days leading up to the game against West Jr. High. East Jr. High beat West Jr. High 16-0.

Homecoming Court consisted of: Eighth Grade King Makaviuos Steward, Eighth Grade Queens Tateana Lewis and Lakeria Chearis, Seventh Grade Duke Damon Chearis, Seventh Grade Duchess Trazia Crawford, Sixth Grade Prince Marquez McNeal and Sixth Grade Princesses Mackenzie Lester and Paige Tomilson.



Pictured: Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade Homecoming Court



Pictured: Eighth Grade football players being honored with their parents



For the 2013-2014 school year, East Junior High has been named a Level Five and Reward School. All Fayette County Schools are measured by two things; state testing results and the growth seen in TVAAS (Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System). The staff of East Junior High brought their school from a Level Three to a Level Five, which is the highest level possible. As a Reward School they are in the top five percent of schools in Tennessee for performance and progress.

East Junior High Principal Ms. Diane Hicks Watkins says, "Every child that walks into my school is focused on being college bound. We seek to ensure that every child gets the education they deserve."

Last year, Watkins was placed at East and has done an outstanding job ever since. One teacher, Ms. Nicole Banks commented, "Ms. Watkins doesn't ask anything from her teachers that she could not do herself. She supports her teachers above all things and makes us want to do well."

"When sixth graders came this year, they were told what was expected of them and how they were going to be successful. We are changing mindsets and students are held to high expectations. They set goals, and we help them get there," stated Watkins.

There are four areas of focus at East: an atmosphere of teamwork, tracking of student data, a professional learning community and regular data meetings with all staff. Expectations are high, and more goals will be added as the school year goes on.

Watkins went on to say, "Being awarded a Level Five and Reward School status would have not been possible without the faculty, staff, parents and students. The students wanted to prove that they are smart and can do anything."

"The school board and I are proud of East Junior High and their academic accomplishments. Watkins is a great principal and we are looking forward to seeing what the future has in store for her students," stated James Teague, Director of Schools

Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Lonnie Harris concludes by saying, "I understand the hard work that goes into making a school what Watkins has made at East. She is an outstanding

principal that will be holding a learning session for the other principals in our county, so they can learn what she is doing and how it is making a difference at her school.”

Congratulations East Junior High on a job well done. The future is looking bright for the students at East because of the high expectations of parents, staff, faculty and the community.