



# The Cougar Courier

Respect Others, Accept Responsibility  
COUGARS ROAR!

East Amwell  
Township School

Cougar Courier  
March 2010—Vol. 10

## The Superintendent's Corner

### Greetings,

The Governor has reduced our state aide for this current year and plans to cut next year's aide by 15%. We will not receive budget figures until Mid-March.

Please review the "Message from the Board of Education" in this month's edition of the Cougar Courier. Preparing a budget for this year is a very difficult challenge.

The School Election Date is April 20<sup>th</sup>. Everyone needs to remember to vote on that day. Please register if you haven't done so.

Sincerely,  
**Edward Stoloski**  
Superintendent

## School Activities

Art Club: Mondays and Thursdays  
Computer Club: Monday thru Friday @ 7:30 AM  
Peer Leaders: March 3 and 17  
Scoop: The School Newspaper: See Miss Anders For Dates  
Environmental Club: See Miss Ernst For Dates  
Drama Club: Nothing This Month  
Jazz Band Jazz Band March 2, 16, 23 8:15-8:45  
MS Strings March 9, 23 8:15-8:45  
Music Club Grades 4 March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 3:15-4:30  
Music Club Grades 5 March 11, 18, 25 3:15-4:30  
Music Club Grades 6-8 March 9, 16, 23, 30 3:15-4:30  
Chess Club: March 8, 15, 22, 29 3:15-4:45



## March 2010 Calendar

<b>Read Across America</b>	<b>1-5</b>
<b>PTO Meeting</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Early Dismissal: Conferences</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Progress Reports</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Board of Ed Mtg</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Early Dismissal</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Staff Development</b>	
<b>End of Trimester</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Spring Drama Production</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>School Spirit Day</b>	<b>26</b>



## The Principal's View

### Dear Parents,

It is time once again for our **Read Across America** week. Our committee has planned various activities for the first week in March. Reading is an important component of your child's educational development and we hope you will join us in stressing the importance of reading with your child.

I would like to thank all the families that participated in our Family Night at the Flemington Fridays. It was a fantastic night of food and conversation. Thank you for your support!!

I would like to congratulate our Science Olympiad Team. They finished in 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the recent New Jersey State Elementary Science Olympiad contest. Great job!!

As a reminder, Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,  
John Capuano, Principal

### Athletic Schedule

#### Volleyball Schedule

March 1st

March 3rd

March 5th

March 8th

March 10th

March 11th

March 12th

Pickup Time: 4:30 PM



## From The Environmental Club

Flower Power is a Fundraiser for schools (any order would benefit our Environmental Club) that sells plants to raise money for school clubs. 50% of the profit is sent back to the school.

The flower selections and edible plants are beautiful- they are also guaranteed to grow!

[www.flowerpowerfundraising.com](http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com) is their website and you can access their catalog to see the plants. Please send me your email address and I will order the plants for you.

Thanks All,

The Environmental Club



## East Amwell Pre-school September 2010

East Amwell Township School is accepting applications for all East Amwell children ages 3 - 5 for its Pre-school Program.

The half-day program will cost \$350.00 per month with transportation being provided by the parent.

The deadline for enrollment is March 15<sup>th</sup>. After March 15<sup>th</sup>, the district will determine if a lottery is needed based on the number of students seeking enrollment.

If you have additional questions, please call 908-782-6464, ext. 210.

**March Is Red Cross**  
**Month**  American Red Cross

## Lady Cougars Basketball

The Lady Cougars won their last game of the season 40-25 against Delaware. High scorer was Julia Blake with 13 points, Olivia Zengel with 9 points, Shannon Beam 8 points, Annie Hajek 5 points, Amparo Pozos 3 points and Erin Ciarrocca and Krysie Hanntz 2 points. The girls played an outstanding game against a team they lost to before. They made great passes and shot 60% from the field and 50% from the free throw line. They had No Doubt they were going to win that game. Congratulations.



## A Message From Your Board of Education

Recently, Governor Christie issued an executive order to balance the state budget by utilizing the money that school districts have set aside to reduce property taxes in local communities, as well as monies that districts have saved for future capital improvement projects. We have been informed that East Amwell Township School will lose \$147,439 in state aid this year, which represents a 17.6% reduction in our state aid for the 2009-10 school year. To offset this reduction, we have been told to take funds from two areas:

1. Excess surplus which has been set aside to provide tax relief in next years budget. This is money that the school saved by being prudent in its expenditures from the approved 2008-2009 budget.
2. Capital and emergency reserve accounts which the taxpayers have approved for needed maintenance improvements and to cover emergency needs. These funds have been earmarked for needed electrical repairs designed to protect our investments in technology equipment. Much needed repairs to the roof which have been submitted and approved by the state with a 40% grant may now have to be abandoned or have an increased cost to local taxpayers.

In preparing the budget for 2010-11 we will be faced with many critical and difficult decisions on programs and improvements to the school's quality of education. The Board recognizes its responsibility to the students and to the community and will utilize all possible resources and options as we strive to maintain the high quality of education we offer within the current fiscal restrictions and challenges we face.



### School Vision Statement:

*East Amwell Township School District... is a safe, supportive community that recognizes all students as unique individuals and provides opportunities for academic, artistic, cultural, emotional, physical, social and character development in a diverse and ever-changing society.*

Poem Of The Month

March: An Ode

Algernon C. Swinburne

"Ere frost-flower and snow-blossom faded  
and fell,  
and the splendor of winter had passed  
out of sight,  
The ways of the woodlands were fairer and  
stranger  
than dreams that fulfill us in sleep with  
delight;  
The breath of the mouths of the winds had  
hardened on tree-tops  
and branches that glittered and  
swayed  
Such wonders and glories of blossom like  
snow  
or of frost that out lightens all flowers  
till it fade  
That the sea was not lovelier than here was  
the land,  
nor the night than the day, nor the day  
than the night,  
Nor the winter sublime with storm than  
the spring:  
such mirth had the  
madness and might in  
thee made,  
March, master of winds,  
bright minstrel and  
marshal of storms  
that enkindle the season they smite."



March 2008

**Project: Character County**

Working With Peer Leaders  
and Lower Grade Students  
Writing Character Matters  
Letters.



Recycling Corner:

Dear Parents/Guardians:



This year East Amwell School has continued to collect the materials listed below to raise money for the Environmental Club. All of the below listed materials would normally go to a landfill. Please send in these items. You can collect from your home, sports games, relatives, from your work, etc. Each wrapper/ glue stick/ pen/sharpie, etc. are worth 2 cents. All materials can be brought to room 16. We will be getting a payment from Terra Cycle in June and I would like to collect as many materials as possible for that June check. Any help in collecting would be greatly appreciated, and it would also eliminate waste from your trash! Please contact me with any questions- Sharon Ernst [sernst@eastamwell.org](mailto:sernst@eastamwell.org).

Wrappers We Recycle...

Cookie- some examples Chips AHOY, Oreo Nutter-Butter, Lorna Doone, Vienna Finger,

Chip Bags- some examples: Doritos, Smartfood, Rold Gold Pretzels, Cheese Nips, Sun Chips, Lays, Herr's, Utz, Cheetos, Fritos, Snyder's Pretzels, Goldfish, Veggie Chips

Candy Wrappers- Some examples: Skittles, M&Ms all kinds, Snickers, Crunch; Dove Bars, Milky Way, Kit-Kat, Reese's, Butterfinger, 3 Musketeers, Starburst

Energy Bar Wrappers: Some examples: Cliff Bar, Powerbar, Luna Bar,

Nature Valley, Fiber One, Fiber Plus, etc.

Pouch Drinks: Capri Sun, Honest Kids, Minute Maid, Kool-Aid

School Tools we Recycle:

Glue bottles/ Glue Sticks; Scotch Tape dispensers, inserts; Pens, Expo Markers, Highlighters, Sharpie Markers

Cartridges for Kids Materials-

We get more than 2 cents for these materials

Laptops, pdas, Ipods, cell phones, digital cameras, dvd discs, game consoles, game discs, ink cartridges, toner

## From The PTO President

The PTO recently awarded the last of our teacher mini-grants to Mike MacDuff, Lauren Falivene, Amy Billera and Thyra Zengel. We have closed the mini-grant process for this year. Thank you to the teachers who participated.

We have several events coming up. Detailed information will be distributed as each event draws near.

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Membership Meeting 7:30 pm

March 26<sup>th</sup> - 5th/6<sup>th</sup> grade survivor night

March 19<sup>th</sup> – PTO Border's/Chili's Night

We will be celebrating school spirit with Spirit Week beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>. We will host 'themed' days along with a trivia contest. All students are encouraged to participate.

Monday – March 15<sup>th</sup> – Hat Day

Tuesday – March 16<sup>th</sup> – Pajama Day

Wednesday – March 17<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Hair Day

Thursday – March 18<sup>th</sup> – Inside-Out/ Backwards Day

Friday – March 19<sup>th</sup> – Blue/White Day

Cougar Clothing is still available. Please check the school website for order forms.

The PTO is still looking for interested members who would like to join the Executive Board. The following positions are open for the 2010/2011 school year: President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Please contact Lisa Saponara if you are interested.

Lisa Saponara

[lisa\\_saponara@yahoo.com](mailto:lisa_saponara@yahoo.com)



## New Jersey State Olympiad Winners

What an exciting and memorable day for east Amwell School and our Science Olympiad Team! The team accomplishments in demonstrating an understanding and mastery of science, mathematics and technology concepts were evident as they won first place in the State Regional Elementary Science Olympiad. Our team displayed not only the knowledge and problem solving skills required, but also the ability to work together as a team.



A big shout out goes to all of the winners!!

## Quote of the Month

"March is a month of considerable frustration - it is so near spring and yet across a great deal of the country the weather is still so violent and changeable that outdoor activity in our yards seems light years away."

- Thalassa Cruso

## PASC

*In Case you were wondering.....*

**Who is PASC? How can PASC assist you?**

PASC is a parent support/advocacy group available to meet the needs of both our special ed. and general ed. parents. We get together bi-monthly to discuss topics, issues, and upcoming educational events in the community. We are striving to be an active group scheduling speakers and networking opportunities for all parents.

If you are interested in being a part of this dynamic group or are interested in learning more about us, please join us for a Meet and Greet in April. Date and details are forthcoming! In addition, please note on your calendar our next meeting is Friday, June 4th.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing a cup of coffee!

Co-Chairs:

Mary Anne Egan and Maria Kiwalle

908-399-2157 and 908-500-7439

**East Amwell Township School**

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**908 782-6464**

**<http://www.eastamwell.org>**