



# The Cougar Courier

Respect Others, Accept Responsibility  
COUGARS ROAR!

East Amwell  
Township School

Cougar Courier  
February 2011—Vol. 12

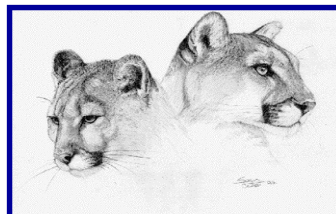
## The Superintendent's Corner

Greetings!

January and February is budget time. We will be working very hard to finalize numbers for the 2011-2012 budget. We will be waiting for information from Trenton as to the amount of state aid we will receive. We will do our best to keep our costs in line while maintaining a quality education for the children of East Amwell. However, this year programs and staff could be affected if funding is cut. Everyone needs to vote in the April Election! If you are not registered to vote, please do so before the deadline. Call the school office if you need registration information.

Sincerely,

Edward Stoloski



## The Principal's View

Dear Parents,

Our annual School House Reads program will be held on Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of reading daily. Research has shown that students that read daily perform better academically and have a greater success in school.

Remember to save the date, Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 PM – 9:00 PM. We are hosting our Annual East Amwell Night at the Flemington **Friday's**. This evening was a great success the last three years, and we hope that many of our parents/guardians, students, and staff members will take a moment to attend this event.

In addition to the above, we are very happy to announce that we will be selecting one 7<sup>th</sup> grader and one 8<sup>th</sup> grader as Students of the Month. The January winners will be selected shortly and their picture will be displayed on our new bulletin board in the middle school. It is our goal to recognize our students for their monthly achievements. Please feel free to contact a Middle School teacher or me if you have questions about this exciting new program.

Sincerely,

John Capuano  
Principal

## February 2011 Calendar

- 2: PTO Meeting 9:15 AM
- 9: Report Cards Issued
- 11: Student Council Dance
- 15: BOE Meeting 7:30 PM
- 18: Snow Makeup Day #2
- 21: President's Day  
School Closed
- 24: School House Reads
- 25: School Spirit Day
- 28: Read Across America

## 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.*

## Clubs

### JAZZ BAND

FEBRUARY 1, 15 8:15-8:45 AM

### MIDDLE SCHOOL STRINGS

FEBRUARY 8, 22 8:15-8:45 AM

### MUSIC CLUB GRADES 6-8

FEBRUARY 8, 15, 22 3:15-4:15 PM

### MUSIC CLUB GRADES 4 & 5

FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 24 3:15-4:15 PM

### COMPUTER CLUB

Monday—Friday 7:30 AM

### ART CLUB

Monday: 7th / 8th Wednesday 6th grade



## Environmental Club NEWS

### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The State of NJ has some cool helpful hints about be nice to the world around us.

#### Environmental Education Characteristics

**The DEP Environmental Education Program recognizes that effective environmental education efforts should:**

*Explore the complex relationships that exist between humans, the built environment, and natural systems;*

*Present factual, accurate, and balanced content, presenting all sides of a topic and encouraging students to examine their own opinions and attitudes;*

*Teach students more about "how to think" and less of "what to think";*

*Include hands-on, minds-on investigations that engage students and feature student-centered learning through real-world applications;*

*Recognize that different learning styles exist among students of all ages and strive to develop both critical and creative thinking skills in all students;*

*Be interdisciplinary, synthesizing knowledge and experiences across disciplines and in all grade levels;*

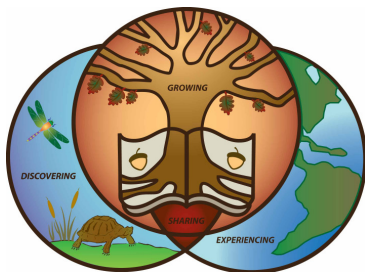
*Allow students to learn from previous knowledge which would then support further learning;*

*Be localized as well as "globalized," focusing on community, backyard and schoolyard interests as well as on national and international interests; and*

*Be user-friendly and designed to meet the needs of the state's educators.*

(Source: **Environmental Education in New Jersey: A Plan of Action**, New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education, 1993, pg. 3)

(Source: **Excellence in EE - Guidelines for Learning (K-12)**, American North Association)



### Keep Up The Good Work



**Drink Pouches:** Capri Sun, Honest Kids, Kool-Aid, Minute Maid

**Cookie Wrappers All Varieties and sizes:** some examples are...Nabisco- All Oreo Varieties, Vienna Fingers, Fig Newton's, Nutter Butter, Famous Amos, Chip Ahoy Varieties,

**Energy Bar Wrappers:** Luna Bar Varieties, Cliff Bar Varieties, Nature Valley Varieties, Power Bar Varieties, Balance Bar Varieties, Quaker Bars, All Granola Bars

**Chip, Pretzel, Popcorn Bags-** ALL VARIETIES/Sizes – Frito Lay Brands, Utz, Smartfood, Herr's, Rold Gold, Baked Lays, Cheetos, Doritos, Tostitos, Veggie Chips, Terra Chips

**Candy Wrappers: All Bars, Bags, & Outside Wrappers- All sizes** M&Ms, Snickers, Babe Ruth, Hershey's, Skittles, Starburst, 3 Musketeers

**Bear Naked Granola Bags:** All Bear Naked Bag Varieties

**Ziploc Baggies-** all sizes of bags and plastic containers too!

**Scotch Tape & All Tape Dispensers/Wrappings too!**

**Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste boxes,**

**Toothbrush wrappers**

**Elmer's and other glue sticks and bottles**

**Writing Tools-** Pens, Markers, Highlighters, Expos- all kinds

**Spreads Containers-** butter spreads, plastic containers, and lids- all brands (please clean!)

**Scott Toilet Tissue Paper-** outer plastic wrapping and paper wrapping

**Aveno Products-** out wrappings and empty bottles or tubes of all products- lotion, shampoo, etc.

**Huggies Wrappers-** huggies diaper plastic wrappings

**NEOSPORIN® Tube Brigade-** all bottles, tubes, wrappings

**Lunch Kit Brigade-** Lunchables

**Coffee Bag Brigade-** All coffee bags- Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, etc

**Tortilla Wraps-** Mission, Ortega, any sandwich wrap plastic bag

**Cheese Wrappers-** All brands/kinds, shredded, whole cheese, Polly-o, Philadelphia Cheese, pre-sliced cheese

## A Message From Your Board of Education

The Board of Education is currently investigating the possibility of installing solar panels at East Amwell Township School as a cost and energy saving measure. There would be only nominal upfront costs to the school district to secure proposals from outside vendors. If built, significant financial savings would be earned by the district for 15 years. Given the current challenging economy, the Board of Education is seeking a variety of such cost saving measures.

There will be a public meeting on February 8, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the Library. All are welcome to attend this information gathering meeting.

## The "Caring Campaign Continues..."

As part of our "Caring Campaign" for the month of February, we are asking you to participate in the "Souper Bowl". We will be collecting canned soups as well as canned black beans, fruits, vegetables, tuna, and spaghetti between February 1 and February 11. All canned foods will be donated to the Lambertville Food Pantry. Thank you in advance for your generosity. **EA Cougar Steering Committee**



## The American Heart Association Fund Raiser

All students in grades K-8 will participate in our American Heart Association fund raiser next Friday.

Please remind ALL students to prepare for this event.  
( sneakers required )

**Envelopes with donations should be returned no later than Thursday, February 3rd.**



## • All About February....

In addition to being the most misspelled month, February is a misfit of days from leap year (every 4th year) to its standard 28 days in a collection of 30. February's name comes from the Latin word "februum," which translates to "purification."

### February Birthstone: Amethyst

- Amethyst is the vibrant violet birthstone for the month of February. The consensus from jewelers and crystal healers is that this radiant purple stone brings on a sense of calm and serenity.
- The two Zodiac signs for the month of February are Aquarius

### February Fun Facts:

- February is Black History Month and Canada serving as a remembrance of important people and events in African American history.
- February is also National Cherry and Chocolate Month which explains all those Valentine's Day gifts of chocolate-covered cherries.
- The first United States president and founding father George Washington was born on February 22, 1732.
- Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809.
- February 2 is Groundhog Day. Since 1886, many people have gathered in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania and elsewhere to see a groundhog climb out of his hole and predict the season's forecast. If the groundhog sees its shadow, winter will be prolonged for 6 more weeks. If the groundhog does not see his shadow, winter will end soon.



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## PTO: Gift Card Program

Great Lakes Scrip Center is working in conjunction with the East Amwell PTO to raise money for the school. With the purchase of each gift card, the PTO is given a percentage from the retailer; some are as high as 20%. Percentages are listed next to each retailer. As in the previous years, the purchase of these gift cards is at **no additional cost to you and there is no shipping charge!**

Browse through the attached gift card form and you will find a variety of selections; many are stores at which you probably shop on a regular basis. Remember....gift cards make wonderful presents for many different people.

This fundraiser will be offered monthly. You can print additional Family Order Forms, which are located on the school's website in the virtual backpack and share them with friends, family, and coworkers.



**Remember to order TGI Friday's gift cards for our "Dinner at TGI Fridays" school fund raiser. Also, Valentine's Day is a big day to dine out so ordering gift cards to restaurants would make terrific gifts.**

