

April 30, 2008

1300 Brushy Creek Road
Taylors, SC 29687

Eastside High School

SIC's Annual Report to the Community

"Strength Through Human Understanding"

Greenville County Schools

Newsweek Ranks Eastside 1st in Region, 2nd in State!

Newsweek magazine ranked Eastside High as the top high school in the Upstate in their 2008 national high school report. Statewide, Eastside ranked 2nd, trailing only North Charleston's Academy Magnet school. Out of 27,000 high schools in the nation, Eastside was #342. We are proud of the academic accomplishments of our students who consistently score well above state and national rankings on educational measurements.



AP Students Among Leaders in District

Eastside High School's AP test scores are in the top two in Greenville County Schools. In a ranking published in the Greenville News, Eastside had the third most students taking AP Exams, finishing behind the two largest Greenville County Schools—Mauldin and Hillcrest. Even more impressive, Eastside's AP students had the second highest AP exam pass rate out of the fourteen Greenville County Schools.

AP Courses Offered 2007-2008

AP Biology	AP Human Geography
AP Chemistry	AP English Language
AP U.S. History	AP Computer Science
AP Calculus AB	AP Spanish Literature
AP Calculus BC	AP Spanish Language
AP Statistics	AP Environmental Science
AP Government	AP English Literature



SAT & ACT Scores Beat the State and National Average

Eastside High School's SAT scores are in the top three in Greenville County Schools. Our average score of 1533 beat both the state and national average. Eastside has the highest percentage of the student body taking the SAT in the state at approximately 95%. Eastside High School's average ACT score of 21.9 in 2007 exceeded both the state and national average. This continues a trend that dates back to 2000.

Eastside High School Mission Statement

We provide educational experiences, in cooperation with the home and community, that prepare students for lifelong learning and for ethical, productive participation in a democratic society and the global community.

Our School Goals - Three Areas of Priority for Our School

GOAL #1: FOCUS ON CREATING A CLIMATE OF INCLUSIVENESS AND CULTURAL AWARENESS

GOAL #2: FOCUS ON IMPROVING THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF ALL STUDENTS

GOAL #3: FOCUS ON DIVERSIFYING OUR TEACHING STRATEGIES TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

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...IS FOR... EXCELLENCE!

School-Based Initiatives for 2007-2008

- **Take Ten**— The mission of the Take Ten program is to make a positive change in the lives of ten students identified as capable but at-risk of not succeeding in school. The program is a school based organization that works in conjunction with the community to assist select students academically and socially . The aim is to help the students restructure how they think, behave, and perform in school and in life. All Take Ten projects focus on teaching the importance of good grades, goal setting, time management, good dress, and good behavior.
- **Tutoring**—Eastside offers free bi-weekly tutoring for any students who seek extra academic assistance. The tutoring program is held in the media center every Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 3:45 pm. The core departments of math, English, science, and social studies also offer additional tutoring options for students throughout the year and .
- **Parent-Community Connections**—The School Improvement Committee seeks input and advice from all parents and Eastside community members. The SIC held two Fall meetings at the Hallems Community Center near East North Street Elementary School to reach out to Eastside families who live in this area of town.

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School Culture

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

- Spirit Week - Cystinosis Foundation was the charity. We raised over \$106,000 in one week. Over the past three years, the school has collected and donated over \$250,000 to different charities.
- Students create a school newspaper as well as a literary magazine.
- Student Government - elected representatives that are in charge of planning and executing our Spirit Week, Homecoming events, and other events.
- Other clubs and classes like Youth in Government, Service Learning, Teacher Cadets, National Honor Society, Senior National Beta Club, Young Life, First Priority, and FCA provide a platform from which our students learn to lead and make informed decisions with the guidance of our parents, teachers and administrators.

PERSONALIZATION

- Guidance Counselors - Help students to determine what they want to do beyond high school. They make sure our students are enrolled in the classes that will help them achieve their goals and will help them apply to colleges and to locate scholarship money.
- Students may choose to enroll in the local career center for half-day courses to give them first hand experience in a field in which they are interested.
- Students may choose to enroll in the Fine Arts Center where they get expert training in their field of interest.
- Students may become involved in our Drama class or AP Art class where their talent is showcased at the school and at the District Office.
- In math and science, students are involved in labs that require the collection, analysis and synthesis of data to arrive at a conclusion using the scientific method. They often use technology to help enhance observations and prepare them for college.
- Socratic seminars are used in other classes like Social Studies, English, and Literature. This method requires all students to be actively involved in the student-driven analysis of a topic.
- Rising Eagles are students who have been identified as being in danger of failing. Counselors, administrators, and teachers adopt these students and provide one-on-one mentoring for them to ensure their success.
- Departments select "Students of the Month"
- Student art work is displayed in the hallways of the school and on the backs of student-designed T-shirts that are worn by teachers, administrators, and students.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- Our student population competed on teams that earned eight region titles, upper-state championships, capped by wrestling's 5th straight state title.
- We have traditional high school teams at both Junior Varsity and Varsity levels. In addition, students are involved in the Dance Team, Marching Band, Cheerleading, and Step Team, all of which are competitive organizations.
- Approximately 42% of our students participate in non-athletic extra-curricular clubs and activities. Examples include: Central Spirit, Key Club, Service Learning, Sierra Club, Natural Helpers. Academic clubs include National Honor Society, and the Senior National Beta Club
- Other clubs include: The German Club, Youth in Government, First Priority, FCA, Prevention Team, Eagles Care, Drama Club, and the Teacher Cadets

SERVICE LEARNING

- Our Service Learning class places students with organizations which are chronically understaffed. Students volunteer at these sites which require them to serve the homeless, abused children, and the impoverished.
- Natural Helpers are students who have been elected by their peers because they have the reputation as an understanding and kind listener. They are trained to listen to their peers who have trouble confiding in an adult.
- Students also gain real-life experience during the planning of Spirit Week and the execution of the planned fundraising. Students are responsible for contacting businesses for monetary donations for items that can be used for the raffle as well as approaching alumni for support

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Eastside opened in 1970 and moved into a new state of the art building for the 2007-2008 school year.
- Our school includes 1292 students in grades 9-12 and sits on 47 acres of land just outside the city limits.
- Our physical plant includes 144,578 square feet. The building houses 48 classrooms, three computer labs, an auditorium, media center, cafeteria, and gymnasium. We have an athletic office and weight training facility.

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Schools

Greenville County

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Taylors, SC 29687

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“Pride of the Upcountry”

WE'RE ON THE WEB

GREENVILLE.K12.SC.US/EASTSIDE/



Exit Exam Scores Near Top of County

Improvement on the South Carolina HSAP exam has been a goal for the past four years. Efforts have been made to infuse the necessary curriculum into our core courses to better prepare all students. This has led to significant gains in our math score as well as gains in reading and writing. In 2007 92.3% of students passed the English version of the HSAP, while 85.6% of students passed the math version. We have also noted a decline in the number of seniors who do not meet the standard by graduation.

School Culture...continued

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

- IGPRO software is used to track student progress which can be emailed to parents.
- Teachers also maintain a separate web page which contains additional information for both parents and students.
- The marquee in the front of the school keeps parents informed of important dates and events that are happening at the school
- PTSA meetings are held once a month to keep parents up-to-date about the new construction and provides them with in-services regarding standardized testing, college applications, and other topics of interest.
- The school web page is kept current and showcases the programs that make Eastside special.
- Events and classroom experiences are shared with local newspapers in an effort to keep the community apprised of the exciting accomplishments of our students, teachers, administrators, and staff.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- The School Improvement Council provides a platform where school improvements, changes, and accomplishments can find an immediate voice. The council consists of students who are elected by their peers, teachers who are elected by parents, and administrators. This committee makes decisions that impact the way business is handled in the school.
- Eastside volunteers logged in more than 26,000 hours last year. Our parents have been, and continue to be, extremely involved in the success of the school
- We receive support and educational programs from the Peace Center for the Performing Arts and one of the local hospital systems.
- Local businesses have partnered with us to provide mentors for our students.

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