East Monthly Board Report
November Regular Board Meeting

November is off to a wonderful start at East Elementary! As we move further into the school year, our classrooms are filled with purposeful learning, growing confidence, and the excitement that comes from students discovering just how much they can accomplish. Our teachers and staff have worked incredibly hard to establish strong routines, build meaningful relationships, and create learning environments where high expectations and a sense of belonging go hand in hand.

One of the things I appreciate most about Team East is the genuine commitment our staff demonstrates each day. Whether collaborating to meet individual student needs, celebrating student successes, or finding creative ways to overcome challenges, our team continues to put students first. There is a shared sense of purpose throughout our building, and it is wonderful to see that dedication reflected in the learning and connections happening in every classroom.

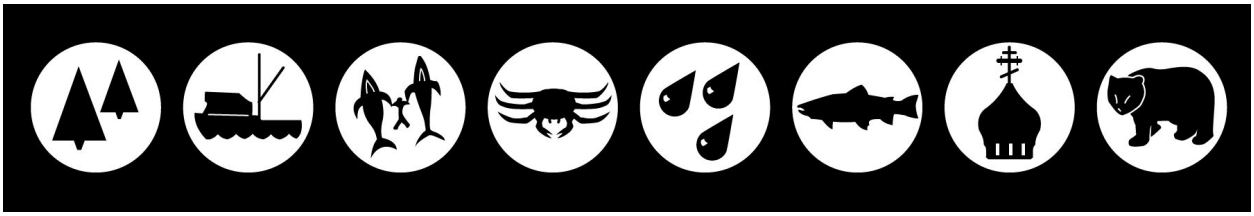
Our November focus, "We Are One East Family," is a beautiful reflection of the community we are intentionally building together. Through our morning messages, classroom activities, and schoolwide assemblies, we are reinforcing the importance of kindness, inclusion, and looking out for one another. As we approach Thanksgiving, I am especially grateful for our incredible staff, supportive families, and the amazing little Cubs who make East such a special place to learn and grow.

Campus Enrollment

Grade	Teacher - # of students				
Kinder	Oliver – 16	Howard - 16	Thomas - 16	Button - 16	
1st	Mancoa – 14	Solano – 16	Loyola - 12		
2nd	Allen – 19	Hockema - 19	Sager - 19		
3rd	Coburn - 22	Lukin - 23	Sorino – 20	Trosvig - 21	
TOTAL Students	**248**				

Instructional Highlights

November finds our classrooms fully engaged in the important work of teaching, learning, and responding to individual student needs. With our fall assessment data in hand, our teachers and intervention teams have moved into full implementation of our reading intervention systems, ensuring that instruction is intentional, targeted, and responsive to student progress.



One of the strengths of our instructional model at East is our schoolwide commitment to meeting students where they are. Students in first through third grade participate in grade-level reading rotations, moving between classrooms and interventionists based on their individual learning needs. Using DIBELS assessment data, students are placed in flexible instructional groups designed to address specific foundational reading skills, strengthen developing readers, and provide continued challenge for students who are already meeting or exceeding grade-level expectations. These rotations allow us to maximize the expertise of our teachers and interventionists while ensuring that every student receives instruction tailored to their needs.

Consistent progress monitoring is an essential component of this work. Our teams regularly review student performance, collaborate during PLCs, and adjust instructional groups and strategies as students demonstrate growth. This flexibility allows us to respond quickly when students need additional support or are ready for greater challenges. It is a tremendous collective effort, and I am incredibly proud of the collaboration, dedication, and high expectations our staff brings to this work every day.

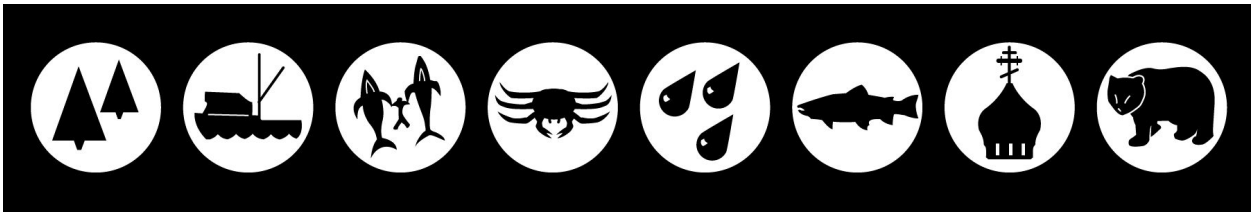
In mathematics, our classrooms are now diving into the heart of grade-level content, with a schoolwide emphasis on strengthening mathematical understanding and building connections between concepts. Teachers are intentionally utilizing available instructional resources to spiral mathematical skills throughout the curriculum, revisiting previously taught concepts while introducing new learning. This approach provides students with repeated opportunities to practice, apply, and strengthen essential skills rather than learning concepts in isolation. Our goal is to build strong mathematical foundations, increase student confidence, and ensure that learning is retained and transferred as students progress through the year.

Across both literacy and mathematics, our focus remains on high-quality instruction, purposeful collaboration, and maintaining rigorous expectations for every learner. The dedication of Team East continues to be the driving force behind these efforts, and I am excited to see the growth our students will demonstrate as the year progresses.

Social Emotional Learning

Our commitment to building a strong sense of belonging and connection continues to be a central focus at East Elementary. Through our daily schoolwide morning meetings, intentional classroom practices, and monthly Cubs assemblies, we are creating consistent opportunities for students to develop positive relationships, practice important social-emotional skills, and understand what it means to be part of a caring school community.

Our November theme, "We Are One East Family," reinforces the message that every student has an important place at East. We kicked off the month with our schoolwide Cubs assembly, featuring the read-aloud *Our School Is a Family*, opportunities for students to connect with one another, and a special third-grade skit highlighting the importance of inclusion and belonging. These shared



experiences help bring our monthly themes to life and provide meaningful opportunities for students to practice kindness, empathy, and appreciation for one another.

Student leadership also continues to be an important part of our school culture. Each week, a different classroom takes responsibility for helping lead our daily morning meetings, giving students opportunities to build confidence, develop communication skills, and take ownership of our school community. It has been wonderful to watch students across grade levels step into these leadership roles with enthusiasm and pride. Our weekly Caring Cubs celebrations further reinforce our CUBS Success Criteria of being Curious, Understanding, Brave, and Safe, recognizing students who demonstrate these qualities throughout their school day.

As we approach Thanksgiving, our focus on gratitude, kindness, and connection feels especially meaningful. We recognize that academic success and social-emotional well-being go hand in hand, and our staff continues to be intentional about creating environments where students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. At East, belonging is not simply something we talk about; it is something we work to build through our interactions, relationships, and shared experiences every day.

Challenges & Considerations

NURSING COVERAGE

Limited nursing coverage continues to present challenges at East Elementary. We are incredibly appreciative of our school nurse and the care, expertise, and support she provides during her time in our building. However, with nursing services available for only a portion of the school day, student health needs frequently extend beyond the hours when a qualified healthcare professional is on site.

During these times, our office staff and administration continue to assume responsibility for responding to student illnesses, injuries, medication needs, and other health-related concerns. While our team works diligently to ensure students receive the care and attention they need, these additional responsibilities place significant demands on staff members whose primary roles already require their full attention.

As we move further into the school year, the need for consistent nursing coverage remains an important consideration. Providing appropriate health services throughout the school day is essential to student safety and well-being, while also allowing school staff to remain focused on their primary responsibilities.

CAFETERIA STAFFING

Our school meal program continues to experience increased student participation, which is a wonderful benefit of providing free breakfast and lunch to all students. The Choice vs. Serve model

has also been a positive addition, allowing students to select foods they enjoy while reducing food waste.

However, the increased participation continues to highlight the challenges created by the reduction of a cafeteria helper position. With only one Cafeteria Specialist responsible for preparing and serving lunch, additional assistance remains necessary to ensure students can move through the lunch line efficiently and have adequate time to eat before recess.

To help meet this need, our instructional coach, school counselor, and I continue to regularly step away from our primary responsibilities to assist in the kitchen during lunch service. While we are all willing to help wherever needed to ensure our students are fed, this arrangement takes valuable time away from instructional leadership, teacher support, and student social-emotional services. Relying on these positions to fill a cafeteria staffing gap is not a sustainable long-term solution.

Our cafeteria team works incredibly hard to provide a positive meal experience for students, and their dedication is deeply appreciated. As we celebrate the success of increased meal participation, it is equally important to recognize the staffing support necessary to maintain that success. Adequate cafeteria staffing would help ensure our students continue receiving timely, quality meal service while allowing our instructional and student support staff to focus on the responsibilities for which their positions are intended.

Upcoming Events

November 6 All School Assembly
November 23 – 24 Parent – Teachers Conferences
November 25 – 27 Thanksgiving Break



