

Our school's performance for One Act got first place in the preliminary round, and got second in sections in a very close loss to Cambridge making them unable to go to state. Speech won their Grand Rapids meet and placed first in 7 of 13 categories. They ranked 7th at the Denfeld meet and found it to be well run and helpful at getting them into a competitive mindset. Their success has continued into last weekend, and they've had a lot of support from parents. The team is very excited to have more new people than returners this year. Knowledge Bowl did well at their first meet but competing online has proven difficult with district technology and WiFi being finicky and difficult to work with.

Nordic and Alpine skiing teams both qualified for state. Nordic was competing today, and Alpine competes tomorrow and Thursday. East girls hockey ended last week and they had a great season. They went through many ups and downs with winning and losing as well as a new team atmosphere with many new team mates. Through the season, though they grew to be really close and they are going to miss the graduating seniors dearly.

Our basketball team has had 10 wins and 11 losses. There have been a lot of injuries this season and it started off with low energy because of having many new players. As the season continues, though, the chemistry of the team gets better and better and thus the positive energy higher and higher. Last year jv and varsity couldn't practice together which impacted all of the team.

Math team is first in their section this year. They had a competition yesterday and though results aren't final it looks like they will be going to state.

Association had a Valentine's Day decorating party on Friday to help increase enthusiasm in the cold winter months. Turnout was good and there were a lot of fun designs and creative ideas for posters with the valentine's day theme. Through the course of last week Association was selling singing valentines to students for the class or classes of their choice. Everyone enjoyed watching them and it was a really fun way to brighten many peoples' days. They also encouraged everyone to wear Valentine's colors yesterday and many participated.

Sources of Strength is planning a spirit week for the month of April, they had their first spirit week as a collaboration with Exec last year and are excited to keep the tradition alive this year. This year they'll be collaborating with Association. Exec is planning to have red and gray week the second week of May. We are very excited in the hopes of having a more full spirit week with more activities potentially outside as the weather warms up in May.

Exec is trying to find more ways to benefit the school as we have plenty of time to plan for red and gray before May. Some things we're trying to implement include more publicity for clubs at East that might not be as well known. We are starting a club of the week idea where each week we pick a different club to feature in announcements as well as a social media post including information about the club. We are also trying to help people get more access to printers in the school. Especially for AEO students, it can be important to have access to printers but not all students know what printers they can access and when so we're working on finding ways to make it more understood when and where printers can be used.

Conferences and registration for next year's classes both start after break.

An issue that has been brought to my attention is soap dispensers. They are often nonexistent or empty in most of the bathrooms in the school. Especially with COVID, students want to be able to wash their hands thoroughly and use the bathroom and have the ability to wash their hands afterwards. I can't speak for the boys bathrooms but I have heard they also lack soap. I'm not sure if this is an issue you all would be equipped to help with but I would love your input on how this can be resolved.

I talked with you all last month about the portion size issue with school lunches. Another aspect to that issue has been brought to my attention. That being the lack of access to water as a part of students' meals. Many are hesitant to drink from water fountains in the current climate and a lot of students don't have, or don't choose to bring water bottles to school. This means that they barely drink water if at all during the day. Students who get school lunch are offered milk but I think it would be extremely beneficial to also offer water in cups or small bottles. This way students can be more hydrated and in turn feel better and learn better. Vending machines do offer bottled water but not everyone brings money to school or has the money to buy bottled water.