

I wish I could be at the meeting tonight, but I am at a tech rehearsal for the fall musical. Here are the updates I have!

We are approaching the end of the first quarter, and it's been a busy one here at East. Homecoming took place two weeks ago and was a huge success! Student Government put together our theme (Hurricane Hounds), dress up days (all based around the weather theme), two assemblies, a movie night, lunch activities, and of course, a dance. We sold almost 900 tickets to the dance, which was at the DECC. It was a week filled with spirit and was one to remember!

Last week, the East National Honors society inducted new members from the senior class. Each of them will spend 30 hours volunteering, and at least 15 of those hours will come from tutoring students at East. On the theme of community service, ABO Hounds are preparing for their fall blood drive, and Key Club remains the biggest club at East.

Next, the boys soccer and football teams have wrapped up their seasons, and athletes are beginning to look towards winter sports. The final cross country team dinner is tonight, and their season is also at its end. The girls soccer team is playing their first game at the state soccer tournament tonight, and a fan bus full of East students went along to support the them. Next, the fall musical, Alice By Heart, opens this Thursday! Shows on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are at 7, and the Sunday matinee is at 1. Student tickets are \$10, and adult tickets are \$15.

Tomorrow, East students will experience our new PAWS Day schedule for the first time. I created a form for students to share their opinions about our new schedule, which includes only two blocks during the day in which students can attend clubs. The most common statements in responses testify that students are struggling to meet their class requirements, challenge themselves academically, and still have time to be involved with school clubs. Without WIN, students who don't have the option to be part of a sports team or other high commitment activity aren't able to get nearly as involved with school extracurriculars. In addition, those who are very busy after school don't have many options to expand their participation through in-school clubs. This is an issue that affects students daily, and I plan to bring more feedback and testimonies after seeing how tomorrow goes.

I look forward to being back for November's meeting!

-Kate Dean