



## EAST MINICO MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Members of the Board,

This letter is to inform you of some of the changes that we are looking to make at East Minico next year. As presented this year, our new Pirate Power Hour has been successful. From trimester one to trimester two, the number of students with failing grades at East decreased by 43%. Students are receiving extra support they need in classes and students have been more motivated to keep their grades up. Due to the positive results that we have seen thus far, we will be continuing Pirate Power Hour for next year.

One change that we are planning to make is the addition of an applied math class for all eighth graders. In looking at our SBAC data from last year, it was clear we needed to do something to boost students' math skills. We have already built a math intervention group into our school day, but it is not enough to affect the change that we would like to achieve on our math assessments. The applied math course will focus students on learning how math is applied to real world situations (such as personal finance). The one-trimester course will also provide time for students to build upon their skills and reasoning.

Our school is developing of a behavior matrix to reward students based upon their positive behaviors. Our motto for the coming year is Everyone Achieves Success Together. We will be providing positive incentives for students based on Excellence, Attitude, Service, and Tenacity. We will also be providing incentives for students per grade level based upon Attendance, Behavior, and Grades.

Another focus for next year will be to add more reading and writing across all of our content areas. Science, social studies, and elective teachers will be asked to adopt a reading/writing standard to implement in their classes. In order for our students to leave middle school with the reading and writing skills they need, students must practice their reading and writing skills beyond their Language Arts courses.

If you have any suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Thank you,

Bryan McKinney