



THE HORIZON

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear East End Parents and Guardians,

I want to first start by welcoming all the families who are new to our campus this year. Whether you have a 6th grader who just started or are the parent of a 9th grader who has entered East End for the first time, you are an important and integral part of what makes us successful. We have been in school for a little over a month now and we are already seeing some strong signs that point to this year being our best. I'd like to highlight a few specific points that I believe have contributed to our strong start this year:

- As a campus, we have spent intentional time focusing on effective lesson preparation to ensure that in every classroom, every day, every student has access to an excellent lesson at East End.
- We have aligned as a campus around clear expectations and accountability for all students.
- We have changed the bell schedule to maximize instructional time for almost all classes and especially for the incoming students in the middle school.
- We have increased the number of AP classes that we are offering this year, so our students have the opportunity to gain as much credit as possible before they even get to college.
- We have taken significant steps to increase the presence of more gates and access points to increase campus safety.

One thing that I like to do to stay in shape is running. This is a new thing for me as I had never been much of a runner in my life. I had a goal to run a marathon last year, my first ever. For the first six weeks, I just ran. Some days it was 5 miles, other days it was 13. There was not a real plan that I was following, and I decided to find a plan and work my plan – and no matter what (rain or shine) I was going to stick to it. For 16 weeks, I ran an average of 55 miles a week and my goal was to finish a marathon, 26.2 miles in 4 hours. After all the training, I finished with a time of 3 hours and 58 minutes. I share that story to frame out the theme of this month's edition of the Horizon – Where we're going, and how do we get there? The school year is often compared to a marathon. It is long, and difficult work and it takes tireless effort every day. The goals that we have for our school and our students are rigorous and the work ahead will not be easy, but it is worth it. We are so proud to serve every student that comes into our school every year and are excited to help them achieve their goals. We want to not only share our goals and where we are heading, we want to share with you what these numbers mean and why we are so passionate about achieving them.

Our goals for the 2019-2020 school year are highlighted below. As you continue to read, we will explain more context around what these numbers mean and specific things that you can do as parents to help your students out. We recognize that you have a choice in a school that you send your children to, and we are honored that you have chosen East End. Thank you for your support and dedication to YES Prep East End. This will be a great year!

Aaron

EAST END



East End

Major Metrics

2019-2020 Targets

Student Achievement

57% Domain I percentage score (average of Approaches+, Meets+, and Masters on STAAR)

41% of students are "college-ready" (percentage of seniors who score at least 480 in reading and 530 in math on the SAT)

100% of AP courses will meet their AP Index goal

100% of STAAR Domain III Targets met

Culture

97% Cumulative average daily attendance %

93.8% of students who are active on 10/1 and still active on 10/1 of the following year

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

The STAAR, or State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, is a series of tests that help tell us how students are doing in school. The goal is to make sure your child is learning what he or she should be and is on-track to graduate from high school ready for college or a career. Once your child has completed the STAAR test, they are given a score that falls within one of the following categories:

Masters grade level means your child showed a strong understanding of the subject material and is well prepared for success in the next grade.

Meets grade level means your child showed a good understanding of the subject material and is ready for the next grade. While there is room for improvement, your child doesn't need a lot of extra help in this subject.

Approaches grade level means your child showed some knowledge of the material but doesn't show an understanding of some of the most important parts. This is still passing, but it's likely your child will need extra help in the next grade.

Did not meet grade level means your child doesn't have enough understanding of the material and did not meet the grade level learning goals. This is not a passing score and your child will need significant learning help and support in the coming year.

Promotion Standards & Graduation Requirements

In order to promote from 8th grade to high school, students must receive "Approaches Grade Level" or higher on their STAAR exams. In order to graduate from high school, the state of Texas requires that all students earn "Approaches Grade Level or higher on their five End of Course Exams (Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, US History).

STAAR and TELPAS Reports

The state of Texas prohibits schools from sending home score reports with students. Hard copies of these reports are available at the front office. You can also access your students' STAAR reports online using the website below. Choose "Find My Access Code" and you can enter the requested information like birth day, etc. to help you log in. <https://txparentportal.emetric.net/lookup-access-code>

WHY THESE GOALS MATTER

When we increase the number of students earning Meets and Masters Grade Level on STAAR, we ensure that more students are leaving each grade level with a good understanding of the subject material and are ready to be more competitive in the college selection process with their peers across the state. Along the way, teachers and administrators use data from student performance on STAAR exams as feedback around where we need to grow and how to best support students who are not yet on grade level.



Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement is a program run by the College Board that allows you to take courses in high school, which can earn you college credit and/or qualify you for more advanced classes when you begin college. They are designed to give you the experience of an intro-level college class while you're still in high school. Plus, you can get college credit for the class if you pass the AP exam.

Access, Credits, Saving Money & College Readiness

AP courses can be very valuable for students in multiple ways.

- Students receive an extra 1 point on their GPAs for an AP course (so, for example, a 3.0 in an AP class is the same as a 4.0 in a standard class).
- AP teaches more than subject-area facts. Students build skills that last a lifetime. AP courses give students access to rigorous college-level work, but with the support of high school teachers and peers. AP students learn what will be expected of them in college.
- AP can set students apart in the college admission process.
 - Students who take AP courses send a signal to colleges that they're serious about their education and that they're willing to challenge themselves with rigorous course work. Eighty-five percent of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions.
- East End students saved approximately \$152, 845 in college tuition by passing AP Exams in 2018.
- East End students earned approximately 435 college credit hours by passing AP Exams in 2018.
- Students who take five years or more to graduate can spend \$21,500 for

Myth	Reality
AP is for students who always get good grades.	AP courses are for any student who is academically prepared and motivated to take on college-level courses.
Taking AP courses could hurt my child's GPA.	Many schools use GPA weighting to acknowledge the additional effort required by AP. In addition, a decision to take an AP course shows admission officers a willingness to take on the academic challenge of college-level course work and expectations.
AP courses are too stressful.	It's no secret that AP courses are challenging, but the support students receive from their classmates and teachers can help ease their worries.
I don't know if my child will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.	You don't need to score a 5. Many colleges grant credit—and placement as well—based on a 3 or better on an AP Exam.

SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. Boyer – AP Spanish Teacher



What are you most excited about this year?

I am very excited to come back to full-time teaching and help my students to communicate proficiently and academically in Spanish.

What is a goal you hope to accomplish?

My goal is to support my students to earn as many college credits as possible through my AP Spanish classes. For this reason, I want one-hundred percent passing rate in AP Spanish Language and AP Spanish Literature.

What makes you proud to be an Explorer?

Every year I come back to East End because I truly appreciate my students and their families. We have very supportive parents and

What are you most excited about this year?

I am most excited about graduating and being handed a diploma to me on stage at the end of the year. Academically, I just want to finish out my senior year strong.

What is your goal for this year?

My goal is to show my parents that I am responsible, that I have goals, that I'm dedicated, and that to have them see what I can achieve in life.

What makes you proud to be an Explorer?

I am proud to be an Explorer because as a school we focus on the importance of going to college. I am constantly reminded that going

Everardo Molina – Senior



Priscilla Lopez – 6th Grade



What are you most excited about this year?

I am most excited about starting classes and making new friends.

What is your goal for this year?

My goal for this year is to do my best and be on track to get a good career. One day I want to be an artist or an art teacher, so I want to make sure I do well in my classes to accomplish this goal.

What makes you proud to be an Explorer?

I am proud to be an Explorer because I know that this is such a good school. My sister also goes to East End and I'm proud to be following in her footsteps.

UPDATE

Explorer Family Night

Hello Explorer families! We are excited to bring you our annual Explorer Family Night (formally known as Open House) on October 3rd starting at 5:45pm in the Great Hall. This will be a great opportunity to win some very cool prizes, pick up helpful documents during our family resource fair, get important grade level and school information, meet the teachers and staff on campus, AND swing by the East End library for the 2019-2020 book fair! We hope to see you there!

Family Notes

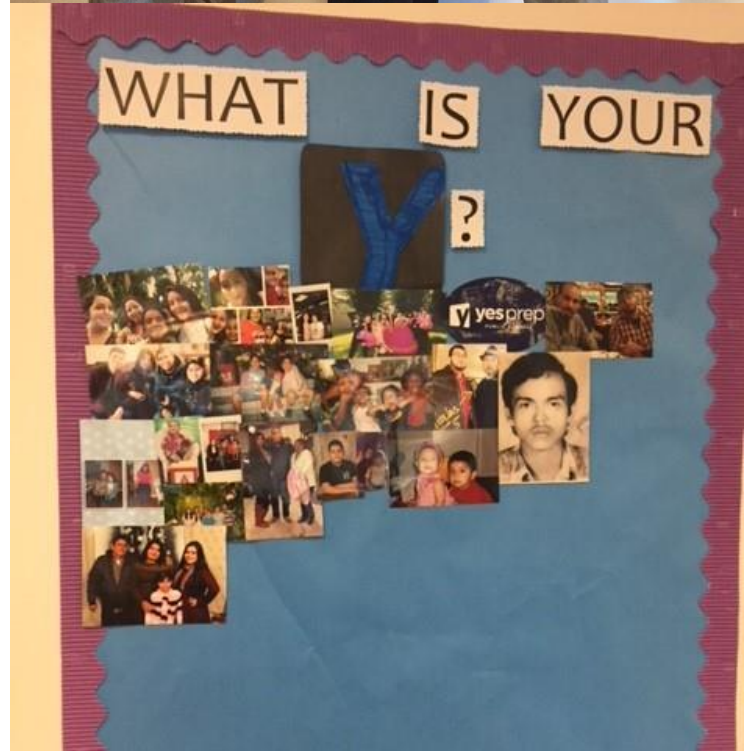
YES Prep has launched its new and improved website! With a fresh design and new experience that's seamless across mobile and desktop, the new website will allow families, staff, and the community to quickly browse and find resources and stay updated on information they need throughout the school year.

YES Prep East End has a new site as well! Here you will find information about bus routes, bell schedules, and much more! Visit our brand-new site now by visiting www.eastend.yesprep.org

Attendance Reminder


























Please be reminded that our goal is to have all students in school each and every day. To make this a reality we need the support of our parents and families. Students arriving after 8:00am are considered tardy and need to check in at the front office. Students arriving after 8:25am are marked absent and need to check in at the front office or provide a note to excuse the absence.

If your student is absent, please send them with a doctor's note or excuse when they return to campus. Excuse notes will not be accepted after 48 hours (2 days). Only two handwritten notes are accepted every six (6) weeks to excuse absences. After this limit is reached, students must provide documentation from a provider to excuse the absence. Absences of three (3) days



October

Latinx Hispanic Heritage Month | Bullying Prevention Month | Red Ribbon Week 10/23 -

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  College Visits  Earlham College	2  Dress Day: Famous	3  Open House	4  YES Prep District College Fair (11th/12th Grade)  Report Card Distributed	5  SAT Administration
7  Connecticut College	8  UT Health KickOff (11th/12th Grade)  Lewis & Clark College	9  Dress Day: Rep Your	10  University of Texas	11  Honor Roll Award for 1st 6 Weeks  Attendance Award for 1st 6  10th Grade: Sexual Misconduct Lessons (in classrooms)	12
14  No School Fall Holiday	15  Texas A&M Kingsville	16  PSAT (10 th Grade) SAT Benchmarking (12 th Grade)  \$1 Dress Day: Soccer	17	18  Scripps College Worcester	19
21  University of Rochester	22	23  RED RIBBON WEEK  IPR Distributed	24	25	26
28	29  11th Grade: Teen Dating Safety Lessons (in classrooms)	30	31  Halloween		