



Dear EMS Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! I hope you had a satisfying and enriching summer. July and August have been busy at EMS; adjusting to changes and getting ready for the start of another special school year. The staff at EMS worked diligently last year to modify our daily bell schedule for the upcoming school year to provide the opportunity for more students to access academic intervention, receive more consistent SEL programming, and participate in music ensembles. This reallocation of time will not reduce instructional time throughout our day. I am excited for our students to return and look forward to a wonderful year together.

At Eastern, the staff works collaboratively to support children becoming problem solvers, innovators, and strong community leaders as outlined in the capacities of the Greenwich Public Schools *Vision of the Graduate*. Eastern's programs are planned to meet the needs of the early adolescent with a strong focus on Academic, Personal and Interpersonal growth. The school's educational philosophy considers intellectual, physical, and emotional issues as complementary variables in a youngster's education and development. It is our goal to ensure that each student achieves optimal growth within the core academic disciplines, develops the capacity to be responsible for their own physical and mental health, and demonstrates growth in personal development and civic responsibility. Team teaching, flexible scheduling, advisor/ advisee program, extracurricular activities, and sports are just some highlights of the Eastern programs.

EMS continues to make progress towards creating a more personalized learning environment so that we can appropriately challenge each student and facilitate growth by leveraging individual interests, passions, and strengths.

While this letter highlights some of what is taking place at Eastern, we know that a large part of a child's learning and development happens at home. We look forward to partnering together so we can prepare your child for a successful experience in middle school, high school, and beyond.

Sincerely,
Marc Guarino
EMS Principal