

November 10, 2023

Veterans Day

Honoring All Who Served



@eastlymems



East Lyme Middle School

A Note from the Interim Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, our student body gathered to express our deepest gratitude and pay tribute to the brave men and women, as well as their families, who have selflessly served our nation. Today was a day to honor our Veterans; a day to recognize their sacrifice, resilience, and unwavering commitment to protecting the values and privileges afforded to us.

We had seventy-one Veterans and service members representing all branches of service who spent the day with us. Our Service Club students served as ambassadors to our building, greeting our Veterans as they arrived and escorting them to assigned panels on each team. During this time, our students were able to pose questions: "Why did you enlist? Where did you travel the world? What was the scariest moment you had while serving? Do you still have contact with people you met while serving?" A school wide moment of silence was held at 11:00 a.m. which signified The Armistice, an agreement to end the fighting of the First World War. As part of celebrating our Veterans, staff and students provided a wonderful luncheon followed by a magnificent ceremony in our gymnasium, featuring music from our choir and band. During this ceremony, students recognized their appreciation for our Service Men and Women.

Additionally, the two eighth grade kivas, *Big Blue* and the *Whelks*, walked to the nearby Old Stone Church Burial Ground to honor veterans laid to rest there.

We also acknowledged a significant milestone-the birthday of the United States Marine Corps; for 248 years, the Marines have demonstrated courage, discipline, and loyalty.

I would like to thank Veterans, both past and present. Their dedication has left a lasting mark on our nation's history. We are profoundly grateful for your service, and we were grateful to share and express our thanks today.

I would also like to thank members of our faculty for making this day so special: Mr. Cruz, Service Club Advisor and Mrs. McMillian, Administrative Assistant for organizing/scheduling today's events, with the support of other administrative assistants. The music and art departments for their audio/visual coordination, the social studies department for providing important historical knowledge to students, our language arts teachers and Mrs. Balboni, ELA Coach for supporting students with their essays and selecting our essay winner. Additionally, our food services for providing delicious meals, our custodians, assistant principals, security officers and staff who volunteered their time to decorate. As you see, it truly takes a village. This day continues to exemplify ELMS at its best and Veterans Day continues to be one of my favorite events that we host.

Regards,

Claudine Kelly



A safety and security issue has been brought to my attention regarding the well-being of our students. It seems that many children are being dropped off in the morning and are being picked up at the end of the day at the Youth Center. When this occurs, no adult is there to monitor the children in the lot or manage the cars. I kindly ask that parents use the back of ELMS for the allocated drop off/pick up procedures. While I recognize that a line may form at times, the well-being of our children and the supervision and management of safety measures is of utmost importance. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

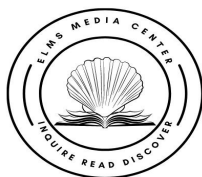
Dates to Remember

November 20	Early Dismissal (11:55) Student Led Conferences (12:45-2:45)
November 21	NO SCHOOL for Students— Student Led Conferences
November 22-24	NO SCHOOL—School Holiday

ELMS YEAR-



Media Center



Counseling Office



Around Town

East Lyme Aquatics [Swim Lesson](#) (November-December)

[Seacoast Youth Choral Holiday Stroll](#) - November 25, 2023

[Niantic Community Church Blood Drive](#)—November 29, 2023

[PJ Day](#) - December 8, 2023

[Leadership Program](#) - Tuesdays starting January 9, 2024

[Girls Circle](#) - Mondays starting January 28, 2024

ELHS - [Sponsor a Scholarship](#)

ELHS Planetarium - [Sensory-Friendly Solar System](#) - November 11 & 18, 2023

ELHS [Fall Planetarium Series](#) - September 29 - November 18, 2023 (Fridays & Saturdays)



ELMS PTA

President: Rita Quiles-Glover
ritaglover@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Nila Kaczor
ncascio@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Danielle Deeble
danielledeeble327@gmail.com

Secretary: Tina Conlin
3peaparents@gmail.com

*Don't forget to join our East Lyme
Middle School facebook page - [https://
www.facebook.com/
groups/1042924832497235/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1042924832497235/)*



November 2023

Families,

Thank you for your continued support! At our last meeting, we had Mrs. Frisbie, 8th grade science teacher, and Mrs. Amaral, ELMS Math Coach, attend and share information about the proposed Grade 7/8 field trip in hopes that the PTA can provide a donation towards this STEM curriculum-related activity. A big thank you to both of them for sharing their insight on the benefits of the trip! Moving forward, different teachers and administration will attend our meetings and share relevant information. This partnership between the school and parents is integral to overall positive school culture! We hope to see you at the November PTA meeting which will not only be held in person, but will also have a virtual option to join in.

Exciting Happenings:

NEXT MEETING - Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 30 from 6:30-7:30 PM in the ELMS cafeteria. You can also now join in virtually! Virtual link is provided when agenda is sent out a few days prior to the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP/NEW MEMBERSHIP SITE - Please complete the [membership form](#) and return with your child. You can still be a member. This is required in order to volunteer at PTA-sponsored events and vote on any items. We are very excited to share that our membership form has gone digital! You can now become a member without sending in checks. Please visit <https://elmspta1.memberhub.com/> to join us today. There is a small fee (less than \$2) for using the digital payment platform.

SPIRIT Wear - Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. We raised over \$500 dollars in fundraising efforts. Are you still interested in buying spirit wear? Do you want to buy more spirit wear for the holidays? The website is still open! Items purchased can only be delivered to your home; no pickup available - [Holiday Spirit Wear Link](#)

FUNDRAISERS - The pie fundraiser was a huge success. We raised over \$2,000 dollars - thank you for your support. Delivery date just in time for Thanksgiving, on November 17th. More details will be forthcoming! If you'd like to opt out of fundraisers and just donate funds towards the PTA sponsored activities, please consider using the alternative PTA form - [Alternate Fundraising Form](#) or donate digitally <https://schoolfundr.org/fund/elmsptaaltfundraiser>

PTA SPONSORED ASSEMBLY - The feedback from PTA sponsored fall assembly on October 17th - Internet Safety was overwhelmingly positive! We are looking to sponsor a spring assembly. If you have ideas for a motivational speaker or presentation appropriate for middle school students, please contact us!

Scholastic Book Fair: The book fair raised over \$4,000. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped. Some of the proceeds will be going directly back to kivas and teachers! We will also be having a spring scholastic book fair on March 18-March 22. A HUGE thank you to Maura Ament who took the lead and organized the entire book fair. It would not have been possible without her!

Volunteer Forms: Forms are required to be completed to help with events, per school policy - [Volunteer Process Forms](#)

Upcoming - At our November meeting we will be spending a portion of the time discussing the upcoming dance which is scheduled for February 9. Join us to provide input! Also, we had the opportunity to meet with Superintendent Newton and Asst. Superintendent, Annaliese Spaziano, along with other PTA Presidents in the community and information from this meeting will be shared. You can always reach us on the East Lyme Middle School PTA Facebook page too!

As always, please remember you can always reach out to any PTA board members with questions or ideas!

