East Islip Middle School Newspaper



Fall 2014 Issue

### <u>Student Government Elections</u> By Shannon Dodenhoff

Several EIMS students competed to serve as the 2014-2015 Officers. These students sought positions to lead the current student body. These dedicated students are:

President -Madison Lane -Heather McNamara

Vice President -Connor Barnes -Ashley Conigliaro -Shannon Dodenhoff -Tyler O'Neill

Secretary -Victoria Keenan

Treasurer -Joshua Koretz

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative -Noah Muroff -Anthony Marino

#### Your EIMS Student Government Officers for 2014-2015 are:

President: Madison Lane Vice President: Connor Barnes Secretary: Victoria Keenan Treasurer: Joshua Koretz 6th Grade Representatives: Noah Muroff and Anthony Marino

Congratulations to the officers and great job to all the candidates!

### **OPINION COLUMN**

### <u>Here's the scoop on the middle</u> <u>school harvest dance!</u> By Maggie King

Hey El Redmen - do you wish you could have attended the Harvest Dance? Were you there and had to leave early? Were you there and couldn't see everything that was going on? Well, enjoy this inside look on what was *really* going on at this fun-filled October bash.

I had so much fun dancing with my friends on the night of October 17, 2014! The DJ played some awesome songs throughout the night and took requests from students. He definitely got the crowd going!

Mrs. McNamara and other PTA members gave out free pumpkins and snacks to the best dancers. Snacks and water were served and pictures were taken to appear in the EIMS 2014-2015 yearbook. They decorated the <del>gym</del> dance floor with some red, white and black star-shaped balloons.

Students who brought canned food were entered into a

raffle to win a \$25.00 iTunes gift card. The 2014 EIMS Harvest Dance was definitely a hit and I am very excited for the next dance!





The Spotlight school store is a time honored staple at East Islip Middle School. Both students and staff enjoy shopping there. Read below for more information!



"There is something for everyone at the school store!" -Mrs. Doyle

# INTERVIEW WITH MRS. DOYLE FROM THE SPOTLIGHT SCHOOL STORE, OCTOBER 27, 2014 BY TARYNN BOESCH, NICOLE PIAZZA AND CAROLINE QUAST

**Q1**: How many years have you been working in the East Islip Middle School?

A1: I have been working here for about 24 years.

**Q2**: How many people work here at the school store?

A2: 70 kids work here in the school store.

**Q3**: How many customers do you get in one day?

**<u>A3</u>**: 10-40 people come to the school store in one day.

**Q4**: What is your highest price item for sale?

A4: The East Islip apparel jacket which is sold for \$45 is the

highest priced item at the store.

**Q5**: What is the lowest priced item at the store?

**A5**: The lowest priced items at the school store are 25 cents for the pens, pencils, mini note pads, eraser tops, hair combs, and parachute men.

Q6: What are some new products you may bring to the store?

A6: It varies in the catalog.

**Q7**: What are the most popular items that are sold?

**A7**: The koala bear is the most popular.

**<u>Q8</u>**: What item do you like most?

<u>A8</u>: The clothing because it has East Islip spirit.

**Q9**: What period is your busiest time?

A9: 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> period are the busiest periods.

**Q10**: Is there anything special about the school store you want to tell us?

A10: A lot of kids don't know where the money goes. A large portion of it goes to the Backyard Bash for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

# EIM\$ \$potlight \$chool \$tore

### Spiritwear for Sale

T-shirt, short sleeved (black, red, or white)	\$12
T-shirt, long sleeved (black)	\$15
Hooded sweatshirt (black, red or grey)	\$28
Hooded sweatshirt (black with contrasting hood, red inside)	\$30
Hooded sweatshirt, zip-up (black)	\$28
Crew neck sweatshirt (red)	\$20
Sweatpants, black (no pocket), REDMEN on leg	\$28
Sweatpants, black (w/pocket)	\$28
Mesh Shorts (black or red)	\$10
Reversible tank (red and black)	\$10
Jacket with hood (black or red)	\$45
EI baseball hat (black or red)	\$20
East Islip backpack, red	\$25
EI string backpack (black or red)	\$12
East Islip tote bag, red	\$10
East Islip lunch bag, red	\$5
East Islip socks, white	\$3

**Payment**  $\rightarrow$  Cash or checks are accepted. Please make checks payable to:

*East Islip School District* and write Spotlight School Store in the memo.

6<sup>th</sup> Graders Reflect on the first few weeks with interviews: How do you feel about the middle school?



By Emily Gargano and Joelle Tommosone

Middle school is a big change. We want to know how you feel about the middle school. In our opinion, we felt scared and overwhelmed. We interviewed some 6th graders to see how they felt.

Student #1: "I felt and feel fine about middle school. The work is hard and it's better than elementary because we get lockers and more freedom."

Student #2: "I was excited and nervous, now I'm confident. It wasn't difficult at first, but later on it got harder. It's better than elementary because we have our own lockers."

Student #3: "I was nervous, scared of the bullies and feared that I would get shoved into a locker. I feel that the work now is harder than in September. I like middle school better then elementary school because I have more freedom and the day seems to go by faster. Now I feel more confident. It's not at all scary and actually pretty fun."

Student #4: "I was scared and didn't think I was going to make a lot of friends. Now I love it and have so many friends. Yeah, the work is hard sometimes, but normally I get it. Middle school is better because we get freedom, we don't walk in lines and we get to talk in the halls."

Student #5: "At first I was nervous, now I'm relieved. The work is hard sometimes but usually not. It's better than elementary where you stay in one class; now you move from class to class."

## New Frog Species Discovered in NY & NJ

## By Justin Martinez

A new species of frog has been discovered in New York City and nearby areas. This new species is called the Atlantic Coast leopard frog. It has a different kind of croak than other frogs and medium sized dark spots that set it apart from the other kinds of leopard frogs. It lives mainly in northern New Jersey. It is also really hard to tell the difference between this type of frog and other species but if you happen to see it. leave it alone because so far they are pretty rare and are still being studied.



# Need Advice? Redmen Support



Hey all you Redmen and women out there if you're reading this, you may need some advice on how to deal with too much homework, studying, taking tests or you're just plain stressed out. Write me and put it in the slot on Mrs. Avella's door (room 114). Sign your letter(s) with an alias and I'll try to help! Look for answers in the next issue of the Redmen Reporter.

Truthfully,

The Red Girl

# Alumni Spotlight



By Padraig Thompson and Noah Muroff



Former East Islip student, Nick Ancona, recently moved back to Long Island to play for Long Island University (LIU Post). He graduated from EIMS in 2007 and then from EIHS in 2011. He played for Towson University in the seasons of 2012, 2013 and 2014. According to my source for this information, he is thrilled about being back on Long Island and can't wait to play again!

# Warm Your Head Whíle Warmíng Someone's Heart

All Proceeds will be used to Support Families in the East Islip Community throughout the Holidays and Year

El embroidered hats are available at the Spotlight School Store for \$15 each. Choose from 2 designs! Look for the order form at our website. Fill out form and bring it with a check to the Spotlight School store.





Nick Ancona in his Towson University uniform.

### Then and Now:

How things have changed over the years

By Julianna Hrubes

Let's take a trip back in time and see how things have improved over the years. Many kids don't realize that all things have a history behind them. Items that you may have now, such as television, and computers, have been around for many years! You might not know what their original versions look like. Take a look at this example. You might be impressed with how things have changed over time.



<u>Apple Computer THEN</u>: This was one of the first Apple computers made in 1984. These types of computers only had a fraction of the memory of modern computers! Since there was no Internet, you couldn't use Google for homework help! People used it for documents, accounting, record keeping, and some games.



<u>Apple Computer NOW</u>: This is one of the newest iMacs. Compared to the original, the screen is much thinner, and larger. You can do so much more on the new iMac compared to the older version. You can go online to play games, do homework, read the news, watch movies, TV shows and more. Today's computers also have much more memory than the older versions. Isn't technology great?!

# Looking ahead to our next issue:

### **Movie Night**

By Anna Langman and Corinne Von Seggern

On the night of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, there was a screening of S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders* for about 63 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The book was required summer reading for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please see our next newspaper issue for more details about this exciting event!



### Redmen Reporter Staff List Fall 2014 Issue

### Advisor: Mrs. Avella

Tarynn Boesch Robert Camlet **Emily Gargano** Joseph Graziano Marcus Higgins Maggie King Justin Martinez Phoebe McCann Kate McGaugh Victoria Miller Noah Muroff Olivia Pause Nicole Piazza Megan Reynolds Katie Schaefer Samantha Seibert Kaili Sperling Sam Stember Padraig Thompson Marie Tohill\* Joelle Tomossone Kasey Turtell **Caroline Quast** Shannon Dodenhoff\* Julianna Hrubes Sophie Bingham\* Anna Langman Emma McGaugh Corinne Von Seggern

\* Editor



## ARE YOU THE BULLY OR THE VICTIM?

By Joelle Tomossone



Do you ever feel like you're getting bullied? Bullying is unnecessary, aggressive behavior among school-aged children or adults. Examples of bullying behavior include making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Some bullies behave this way because they're broken down inside. If this happens to you, report it to a

### **NO EXCUSES!!!**

By Phoebe McCann

There are no excuses with this star wrestler. Our middle school got a visit from Rohan Murphy on November 3, 2014. Rohan Murphy is not just any wrestler--he has no legs! They had to be amputated when he was young. However, Rohan wasn't ready to give up just yet. He had big hopes and dreams.

Growing up was hard for Rohan. People would make fun of him just because he is different. They didn't take the time to get to know him. People didn't understand how wonderful he really is. But that teacher, parent or adult immediately.

There may always be a bully or mean person in life. We all have to learn to ignore what they say. You should have self-confidence and believe in vourself, no matter what other people think. For example, you may be bad at singing, but if you love it, do it anyway! Stand up and sing in front of everyone. It shouldn't matter if someone is mean to you afterwards. You love to do it and that's all that matters. Bullies like when you get upset; that is why you should not show that it bothers you and maybe they will stop.

Cyberbullying is a major type of bullying. It takes place using electronic technology. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or

didn't stop him.

When he went to school, here in East Islip, there was someone special that helped him to join wrestling. That special person was Mr. Croteau. Mr. Croteau went to Rohan and said he knew a way for him to wrestle. When Rohan got into wrestling there was no going back. He fell in love with it. He was so strong that he pinned a kid at the demonstration.

When Rohan went to school, he never used the fact that he had no legs as an excuse for forgetting his homework or leaving something in his locker. His motto is "No Excuses". rumors sent by email or posted on posts on social networking sites. It also includes embarrassing pictures, video websites or fake profiles. Today many people have iMessage, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Cyberbullying through these sites can be very dangerous and have long lasting effects, even though posts may just take a second.

Do you ever feel like you're the bully? Are you mean to people just because they're different? If you are the bully ask yourself, "Would I want someone to pick on me or make me feel bad?" Does it make you feel good when you're hurting someone else? If it does, what do you think about yourself? Think about what you can do to change your actions. Are you the bully or the victim?

So, next time you mess up and attempt to make an excuse, think of Rohan Murphy. He is such an inspiration to everyone. No excuses! Pass it on!



Rohan Murphy, motivational speaker, El graduate



# Interviews on Common Core Controversy

## By Anna Langman and Emma McGaugh

Common Core has been a HUGE controversy; some adults hate it, and some adults like it. People haven't asked the students what they think about it or if Common Core has even affected them. Many students most likely don't know what Common Core really is.

Tracy Norton is a teacher at a local college, Touro College of Law. She had a lot to say about Common Core. When asked what she thought Common Core was, she replied "My understanding of Common Core is that it is a uniformed set of standards that states can adopt so that the curriculum in every state prepares American students to compete globally." She states that her students are not directly impacted by the introduction of Common Core because it only impacts grade levels up to grade twelve. She does not expect a great difference for at least ten years, even though the first Common Core students will be brought into her class in seven to eight years. She is enthusiastic about

Common Core and believes it will better prepare students for the international economy they will be introduced to. Mrs. Norton believes that we should keep Common Core. She claims that the transition period is rocky for any new set of academic standards and after the initial transition, we will begin to see more advantages over disadvantages.

We interviewed Ms. Modugno, an ELA teacher here at EIMS on Team Titan. We asked what she thought common core was, if it has affected her teaching, and if we should keep it. She said that she thinks Common Core is "a set of standards that students need to reach in order to be college and career ready. Yes, it has affected my teaching because students are now engaged with more challenging texts and tasks. We should keep Common Core because students need to be challenged in order to be prepared for what they will face in their future."

Faith Flaherty is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student here at EIMS. We asked what she thought common core was and how it impacted her grades. She replied "Common Core is...well, I think it is a hard curriculum and challenging. It impacted my grades by making me work extra hard, and it got harder to keep my grades up." When asked if we should keep Common Core, she replied "No. Common Core should only for people who want challenges and think they could do it."

For our final interview, we asked Julianna Hrubes, EIMS 7<sup>th</sup> grader, what she thought Common Core was and she replied "It is something the government is making kids do for some reason." Next, we asked her if it has affected her grades and if she thinks we should keep it and she said "It has made my average go down and we should get rid of Common Core."

As you can see, teachers and students have very different point of views on Common Core. All in all, as we have interviewed these people, we have noticed that most kids don't know what common core is and even though they don't know what Common Core is, they do know that it has affected their grades and dislike it because of that.



# **Fun with Puzzles!**

### Word search: Newspaper

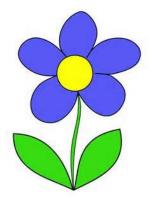
By Joseph Graziano

B V N V G W R O A Q F I U W E P V L R Q Т S O R ΖP В ΥR F S С D SUO A S V Ο Т Т PARAGRAP Т DALQLYH J Η IQQFOJQC ΚΕΙ YLUGYI U Κ J Y KDJOVIXAC PREORWJA Ζ Х V BTLZUMNVL Y Y P N K ΙΟΚ Α Т Ρ Х TGEE Ζ ΝΤ Ε ΝΑЈΝΟΒСΒ Υ D IMHORHHF ΙΑΑΑΗ S Κ Х Ι S Η U Т Η Ρ ΚI ΥZ Т ΜЕ Q Т Ζ ВСС WΧ W L Е RUT С Ι Ρ Ο Ο Α Ο Ζ С Ζ ΜА Ε Ρ Ζ R Ζ GLL QΤ SMHDDP D ΡΚΥΝ Ο Ι Ζ Т F. KRNDC Ε ΡΚΡΑΙ KAVRV В В GVΥ IPBRFTA Ι Ζ UΚΖ Ρ Т Ι Ρ В Υ DVACRO Ι Ι ΗΟD Ε ΝΟΚΟΑ Υ Т S L X D Y M X V D X N Q Ε ΒΕ ΒVΝ Х Υ J U ΤυνΜΕ Т Т G ΜF Ο S S Υ D Κ Ι U QF ΑA Т Ζ ORJ Ζ Е Υ F F Q Ν Q U F V IJ JNUNW Ι ХУҮ FΕ Ν S ΥCQ Ζ С W V R C O Y M K V W D O DUXRUG В L Q ΜΟΤΟΧΥΣΚΨΥΟΡΚΟΡΙGΡΡΜ

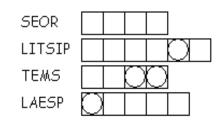
ARTICLE CAPTION EDIT HEADLINE NEWS PARAGRAPH PHOTO PICTURE



EIMS Solution to STEM STEM STEM STEM



Jumble By Joseph Graziano





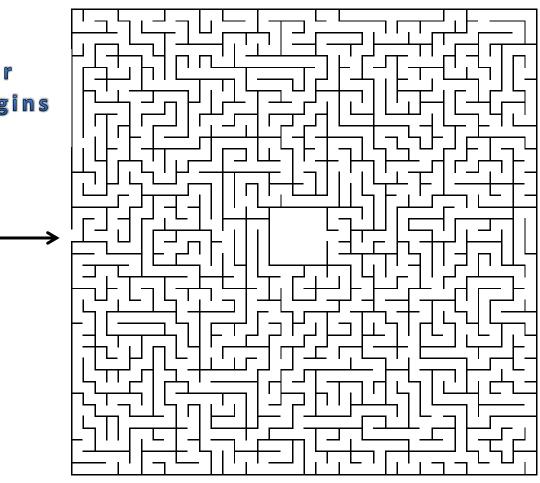
Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in Dboxes and unscramble them for the final message.

See previous page for solution.

TECH IS COOL

Solution to Double Puzzle: APPLE MICROSOFT NOKIA SAMSUNG STEVEJOBS STEVEJOBS BILLGATES

# Maze Runner By Marcus Higgins



### Word Search: Basketball

By Samuel Stember

Ο Ο Η Q U Q J D B L Z A Q C R Y R K P U QEKLO ZXKMC IND Ρ Ε Ι υD V Y FCAUWQZWS Ζ Y Т Т RΟ R S R J Υ BALLIN ΟE S Ι Ε В F RΕ Ε Т ΗR W ΝΜ Т W 0 F BASKETBALL МL ΤΝ В Т W Ι Ε Т Ο S U N N Z Ι S F А DEFENSE ΝA S N Ε В А V D XRN J Т Y R 0 ΜЕ V DRIBBLE ZLACOMLF С GC LEEK Ι Ρ QΝ Α FREETHROW Ι X F V H Ζ Ε LAS Т Ν ORE Q D Ο S Ο OFFENSE MAXHS S PDDCEE ΤВ Ζ YWKEM TEAM BXWOMWPEEUX S DDGX Т ਜ Y IJ THREEPOINTER JWJOC OJZEBPFKAEGFAD U TWOPOINTER UXUHB BRW ZRN Ι LLABOD Ζ М S N A G F U B H U U L C XGC WLJ Ε Х R S ΒD Ο Ρ VAV Ι L Т ΑJ D Ζ ОЈΝ V DRBE SKKRT W S Т SSGNQFAP Ι ΡΚΕΝ ΥΧΟ LBCRNE V Ρ Υ W В М FVPW F PSHYCBYDKWSO С G Т T, B V N T. M K F N N A T X J P A M Ζ D М ZBHUUPDLUAASLWBVIRP 0 O Z U S X R X H U M I O R A G N W O J R DOUBLE PUZZLE By Markus Higgins Unscramble each of the clue words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number. PELPA NAIKO NUGSASM CIOTOMRES NEOHIP SEVTOSJEB SILAGELTB HINT: Words have a technology theme (phones, computers, etc.) See previous page for solution.