



# EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

East Hampton, Connecticut

## Superintendent's Update

Week of August 28 – *Welcome Back!*

**WELCOME  
BACK!!**

The vision of the East Hampton Public Schools: Preparing and inspiring our students to be innovative, responsible, contributing members of an ever-changing global society.

Today, we are committed to a worldwide struggle to promote and protect the rights of all who wish to be free.  
... It ought to be possible, in short, for every American to enjoy the privileges of being American  
without regard to his race or his color.

~ John F. Kennedy



*We are excited to welcome back  
our teachers and students!*

*At the start of the school year bus times vary from anticipated schedules, so please be patient with us during the first week of school. Routes and boarding are run with deliberate care and extra caution, requiring increased time. We know our performance will improve each school day. Working together we will make this a safe school year for all!*

### This week in our Schools

- **Monday, August 28 – East Hampton Public Schools Convocation: Breakfast in the High School Cafeteria, 8:00-9:00 AM followed by Convocation in the High School Auditorium, 9:00-10:30 AM.** This is our yearly get-together of every teacher and staff member in the district as we kick off another school year.
- **Monday, August 28 – Grade 4 “Welcoming Event” at Center School, 3:30-4:30 PM.** All Grade 4 students are invited to visit Center School, meet their teacher, and visit their classroom before the school year officially begins.
- **Monday, August 28 – Center School Center School “Band Jam” for returning Grade 5 Band members, 4:00-6:00 PM.** Join Mrs. Sprague and bring your instrument!
- **Tuesday, August 29 – Kindergarten “Meet and Greet Bus Ride” Morning at Memorial School, 9:00-10:00 AM.** *We look forward to welcoming the Graduating Class of 2030 into Kindergarten!* Incoming kindergartners have an opportunity to meet their teacher and classmates and take a short bus ride while parents/guardians attend an orientation with school administrators, nurse, and office staff. It's a great opportunity to introduce yourself to our new Principal, Mr. Andrew Gonzalez.
- **Tuesday, August 29 – Classroom “Sneak Peek” of PK-3 Rooms at Memorial School, 3:30-5:00 PM.** Students in Grades PK – 3 and family members are invited to stop in for a self-guided tour of the building and their classroom
- **Tuesday, August 29 – Municipal Town Building Forum in the East Hampton High School T-Bell, 6:30 PM.** This is a chance to learn more about the new building that is slated to host the Town Hall, Police Department, and Board of Education offices. If you cannot attend (because you have excited children who are getting ready for the first day of school), the meeting will be livestreamed: [https://www.youtube.com/chann.../UCosY\\_ba4CNaJbB2dhkMZFWA/live](https://www.youtube.com/chann.../UCosY_ba4CNaJbB2dhkMZFWA/live)



**Wednesday, August 30 – First Day of School! Welcome back – we want our teachers, students, and families to have their best year ever!**



**Friday, September 1 – Coffee and Chat with the Superintendent at 94 Main Street, 7:30-9:00 AM.** Come in for Coffee this Friday! Start the Labor Day weekend off with a cup of coffee and a quick chat. Don't miss the opportunity to sit down with the Superintendent for casual conversation about the schools.



## August/September Calendar

Get your event on this calendar!

Send additional events and dates to  
psmith@easthamptonct.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 - September	2
	<p>Back-to-School CONVOCATION for Teachers &amp; Staff High School 8:00 AM &amp; Professional Development</p> <p>"Welcoming Event" Grade 4 Students Center School 3:30-4:30 PM</p> <p>Center School "Band Jam" Grade 5 students 4:00-6:00 PM</p>	<p>Professional Development for Teachers &amp; Staff Kindergarten Meet &amp; Great Bus Ride 9:00-10:00 AM</p> <p>"Classroom Sneak Peek" Pre K - 3 Students Memorial School 3:30-5:00 PM</p> <p>Meeting on the New Municipal Building Town Hall/Police/BOE at the High School 6:30 PM</p>	<p>First Day of School 2017-18</p> <p>Back To School!!</p>		<p>Coffee &amp; Chat With the Superintendent 94 Main St. 7:30-9:00 AM</p>	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day No School	<p>Board of Education Meeting - EHHS T-Bell, 6:30 PM Tuesday - due to Holiday Met out: Teacher of the Year Paraeducator of the Year Rookie Teacher of the Year</p>		<p>High School WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE 6:30 PM</p>	<p>International Literacy Day</p> <p>East Hampton High School <b>RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION</b> Tours 3:30-4:45 PM Program 5:00 PM</p>	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<p>Middle School Sports Parent Meeting Cross Country-4:00 PM Soccer-5:00 PM</p> <p>High School Senior Parent Night High School Auditorium 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Middle School WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Character Day <i>Let it Ripple!</i> <a href="http://www.letitripple.org">www.letitripple.org</a></p> <p>Middle School PTO Middle School Library 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Center School WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Coffee &amp; Chat With the Superintendent 94 Main St. 7:30-9:00 AM</p> <p>United States Constitution Day</p>	<p>High School Crew Regatta at the Lake 250th Celebration Event</p> <p>BELLINGER Regatta</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<p>Board of Education Meeting - EHHS T-Bell, 6:30 PM Friends of Education Night! Info on new Town Hall</p>	<p>Memorial PK, K, 1 WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE 6:30 PM</p>	<p>High School Washington DC Information Meeting 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Superintendent's Advisory Council 94 Main St. 9:00 AM</p> <p>Grade 4 Summer Reading Celebration</p> <p>Memorial 2, 3 WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE 6:30 PM</p>	<p>First Day of Autumn</p> <p>Memorial School PTO JOG-A-THON</p> <p>Grade 5 Summer Reading Celebration</p> <p>Middle School Pantherfest! 3:00-9:00 PM</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		<p>High School College Funding / Financial Aid Workshop Junior &amp; Senior Parents High School Auditorium 6:30 PM</p>	<p>East Hampton HS Band at BIG E</p>		<p>Center School JOG-A-THON</p>	

## Notes

### **Important meeting in Town this week!**

**Tuesday, August 29 – Municipal Town Building Forum in the East Hampton High School, T-Bell, 6:30 PM**



There will be an important forum open to all citizens of East Hampton on Tuesday evening of this week (8/29) at the High School at 6:30 PM. This is a great chance to get an update on the building that will serve as the new home of the Town Hall, Police Department, and the Board of Education. It's a chance to ask questions and get the facts on why the town is considering a new municipal building and why the location has been selected.

***Be there – and get the facts!***

### **East Hampton Board of Education Highlights (8/21/17)**



Visit East Hampton

**You Tube**

You can view this meeting and past meetings at:

<http://www.easthamptonps.org/2017-2018-boe-meetings>.

Scroll down the page and click on "VIDEO" of the date you wish to view.

- The East Hampton Board of Education was informed that the new student representatives to the Board of Education would be Kristin Whitney and Hannah Balda. They will attend the meeting on Tuesday, September 5.
- There was a public forum to honor Principal John Fidler with a memorial tribute. The following ideas were shared with the Board of Education:
  - Name the T-Bell after Mr. Fidler.
  - Name the Gym after Mr. Fidler.
  - Name the Athletic Field Complex after Mr. Fidler.
  - Start a scholarship in honor of Mr. Fidler. (Please note: A scholarship in John's name has been established already.) Street to School named after John – The John Fidler Way or John Fidler Path.
  - Rename North Maple Street after Mr. Fidler.
  - Rename the High School – The John Fidler Memorial East Hampton High School
  - Dedicate a Memorial Bench to Mr. Fidler.
  - Have a Bronze Plaque in the building in honor of Mr. Fidler's career.
- The Board of Education will be in communication with the Fidler family prior to the September 5 meeting at which time they will continue the conversation on a memorial tribute.
- Mr. Smith invited the Board of Education to New Teacher Orientation on Thursday, August 24, Convocation on Monday, August 28, and the Ribbon Cutting of East Hampton High School on Friday, September 8.
- The Board received annual information about Middletown Adult Education programs and offerings. The Board pays an annual fee that allows all citizens in town to take GED courses, English Language courses, and Citizenship courses. Other courses are open to the public at nominal fees.
- The Board received information on the Chromebook lease approved by the Town Council. The school will lease 456 Chromebooks that will supplement the devices used for 1-to-1 technology at both the middle school and the high school.
- The Board was given anticipated enrollment figures for the opening of school. These figures will be updated once school begins. (PreK – 43, K – 141, Gr 1 – 147, Gr 2 – 152, Gr 3 – 132, Gr 4 – 155, Gr 5 – 170, Gr 6 – 158, Gr 7 – 136, Gr 8 – 151, Gr 9 – 125, Gr 10 – 117, Gr 11 – 129, Gr 12 – 108.) Memorial: 615, Center: 325, Middle: 445, High: 479.



### **Coffee with the Superintendent**

Don't forget that there are two options for **Coffee with the Superintendent of Schools**. You can come in for an informal **"Coffee and Chat," typically on Friday mornings** or come for the more formal **Superintendent's Advisory Council meetings on Thursdays**.

At the "Coffee and Chat" you can stop in for a coffee and stay as long or as short as you like. Come in and stay a while or just take a "to go" cup, say "hi," and be on your way with coffee in hand.

Another option is the Superintendent's Advisory Council – open to all parents and community members, this meeting features an agenda, but also allows for parent questions and concerns. Come and get accurate information – and learn about your school's programs throughout the year.

**Mark these dates for the Fall and early Winter:**



#### **Superintendent's Advisory Council Dates**

Day	Date	Time
Thursday	September 21 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	9:00 AM
Thursday	October 26 (4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday)	9:00 AM
Thursday	November 16 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	9:00 AM
Thursday	December 21 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	9:00 AM



#### **Coffee and Chat Dates**

Day	Date	Time
Friday	September 1	7:30-9:00 AM
Friday	September 15	7:30-9:00 AM
Friday	October 6	7:30-9:00 AM (Donut Day!)
Friday	October 27	7:30-9:00 AM
Friday	November 3	7:30-9:00 AM
Wednesday	November 23	7:30-9:00 AM
Friday	December 8	7:30-9:00 AM
Friday	December 22	7:30-9:00 AM (Cookies, too!)

Both events are held at 94 Main Street. (Note: No taxpayer dollars are used for the coffee, cups, lids, stirrers, cream, or sugar.)

If these dates do not work for your schedule, you are cordially invited to join the Superintendent for coffee and a conversation at a time of your choosing. Call 860-365-4000 or email [psmith@easthamptonct.org](mailto:psmith@easthamptonct.org) to schedule a time that works for you!

### **East Hampton High School – One Chromebook for Every Student**



As a result of the near completion of the High School building renovation and the cooperation of the East Hampton Board of Finance and Town Council, who have committed capital dollars for technology, the high school is able to enter a lease agreement that will result in a Chromebook for every student at East Hampton High School. Last year, students in Grades 6-8 at East Hampton Middle School had their own Chromebook during the school day. Students kept their individual Chromebook in their homeroom and it was signed out in the morning and returned in the afternoon. Our high school students will have 24/7 access to the Chromebooks for assignments and research. **Parents are urged to review the updated Rules and Code of Ethics for Computer Users in Grades 6-12. Click here for document.**

**Parents will receive information directly from the schools regarding policy and procedures for Chromebook usage.**



## Are you following us on Facebook? You should be!



The East Hampton Public Schools features five Facebook pages – one for the District and one for each of our schools. It's a great way to keep up with the day to day highlights of our district!



[EH Public Schools](#)

[Memorial School](#)

[Center School](#)

[Middle School](#)

[High School](#)

Visit the pages and then “like” them. You’ll get regular Updates!

## Ribbon cutting is around the corner and it's for the whole community!

Please plan to be part of the Ribbon Cutting Celebration at East Hampton High School organized by East Hampton High School, the Building Committee, and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee

- **Tours** of the new High School begin at 3:30 PM and continue to 4:45 PM.
- **Watch the Boys' Soccer Team** home opener in back of the building. The back of our building and the sports fields are now connected.
- **Ribbon Cutting** officially takes place at 5:00 PM.
- **Celebration** in the Auditorium at 5:15 PM – 6:00 PM. Including opening of the time capsule and the closing of the new time capsule.
- **Refreshments** and additional tours after the program at 6:00 PM.



## Thoughts

### Making Kindness and Caring Common – *it needs to be much more than a logo!*



In last week's Update, I asked you to join me in an effort to make our schools (and our community) places that promote kindness and caring – not because we don't already, but because we constantly need to ensure that our students experience kindness and caring as youths if we want them to prosper as kind and caring adults.

In this week's Update, I am going to share evidence with you on why kindness and caring is so important. Knowing that this requires a full school and community approach, I hope every reader will pledge to help!

Last spring, East Hampton High School Administration worked with the East Hampton Community Prevention Partnership (James Olsen, Prevention Coordinator) to administer a survey of our students in Grade 9 -12. This survey, **Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth - Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors** has been put together by the Search Institute. Through research, they have determined that building up positive assets in students' lives is a much more powerful tool than spending time promoting "prevention" of risky behaviors.

From the Report:

Over the past 20 years, Search Institute has surveyed over three million youth about how they experience the **40 Developmental Assets**—a research-based framework that identifies basic building blocks of human development. We've found clear relationships between youth outcomes and asset levels in both crosssectional and longitudinal studies.

The results are compelling: The more assets kids have, the better. Youth with high asset levels are less likely to engage in high-risk behaviors (such as violence, sexual activity, drug use, and suicide), and more likely to engage in thriving behaviors (such as helping others, doing well in school, and taking on leadership roles).

Assets are crucial for the healthy development of all youth, regardless of their community size, geographic region, gender, economic status, race, or ethnicity. This report summarizes the extent to which your youth experience the Developmental Assets and how the assets relate to their behavior and overall health.

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Think of **external assets** as positive developmental experiences provided for youth by networks of supportive people and social systems in the community. They offer youth a consistent source of love and respect, opportunities for empowerment, leadership, service, and creativity, safe interpersonal and physical boundaries, and high expectations for personal achievement.

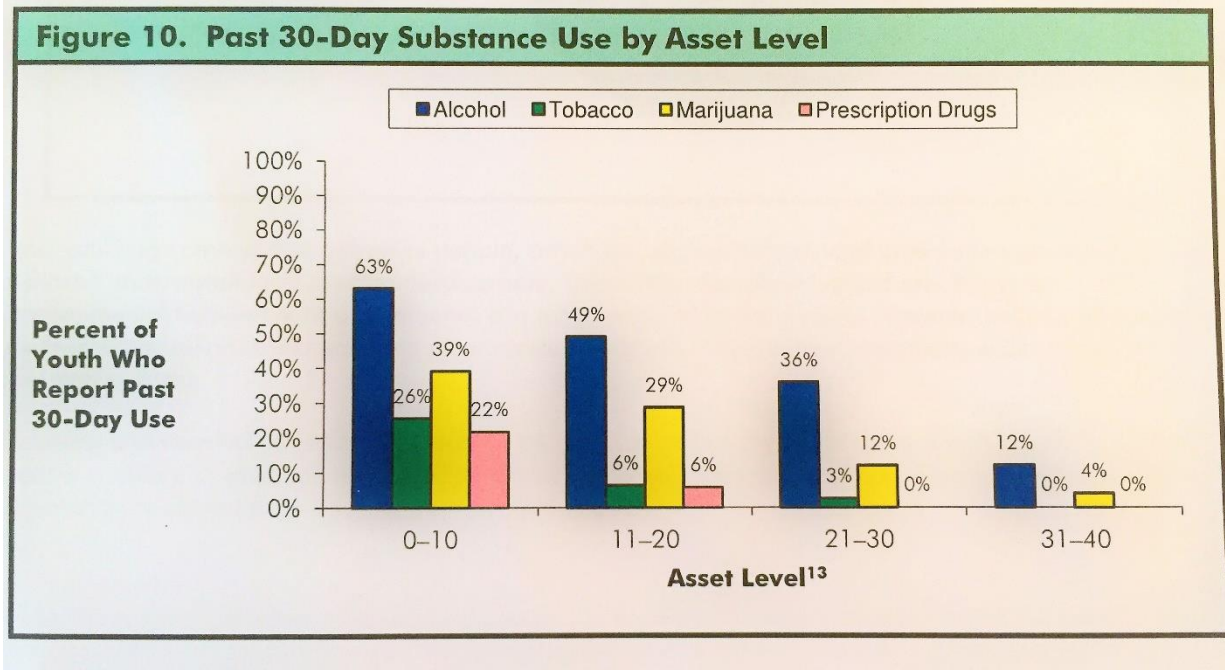
The **internal assets** can be thought of as inner characteristics: a young person's motivation and commitment to academic achievement and lifelong learning; his or her positive personal values; social competencies (including relationship and communication skills); and characteristics of personal identity, including an optimistic future outlook and sense of purpose.

Below are very brief highlights from the 107 page report. The percentages listed to right of the assets are the results of our own East Hampton High School students who are considered to possess particular assets in their life through the manner in which they answered survey questions. To me, there is compelling evidence to promote kindness and caring in our students' lives when one examines these results in an honest manner – because, of course, our goal is to make sure 100% of our students have every one of these assets in their lives. There is no stronger motivation to promote kindness and caring than to look at some of the indicators and realize that in East Hampton as a school community and a community-at large, we can do better for our students. We can – and should - hit 90, 95, or 100%.

External Assets	EHHS%	Internal Assets	EHHS%
<b>Support</b>		<b>Commitment to Learning</b>	
1. Family support	72%	21. Achievement motivation	66%
2. Positive family communication	31%	22. School engagement	35%
3. Other adult relationships	52%	23. Homework	36%
4. Caring neighborhood	39%	24. Bonding to school	61%
5. Caring school climate	33%	25. Reading for pleasure	14%
6. Parent involvement in schooling	18%	<b>Positive Values</b>	
<b>Empowerment</b>		26. Caring	63%
7. Community values youth	15%	27. Equality and social justice	65%
8. Youth as resources	32%	28. Integrity	80%
9. Service to others	54%	29. Honesty	75%
10. Safety	61%	30. Responsibility	73%
<b>Boundaries and Expectations</b>		31. Restraint	24%
11. Family boundaries	52%	<b>Social Competencies</b>	
12. School boundaries	47%	32. Planning and decision-making	36%
13. Neighborhood boundaries	31%	33. Interpersonal competence	48%
14. Adult role models	31%	34. Cultural competence	41%
15. Positive peer influence	61%	35. Resistance skills	40%
16. High expectations	51%	36. Peaceful conflict resolution	48%
<b>Constructive Use of Time</b>		<b>Positive Identity</b>	
17. Creative activities	15%	37. Personal power	42%
18. Youth programs	62%	38. Self-esteem	44%
19. Religious community	27%	39. Sense of purpose	56%
20. Time at home	58%	40. Positive view of personal future	71%

Here is just one reason why these assets matter:

Figure 10 shows how alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drug use in the 30 days preceding the survey compare across asset levels.



The above chart indicates substance use by East Hampton High School students last spring.

**For students who indicate a higher presence of the assets in their lives, risky behavior including use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs is significantly lower.**

This is why the East Hampton Public Schools, the East Hampton Community Prevention Partnership, and any community organization will commit to “asset-building” in East Hampton. And, if you look at the assets, it’s not a stretch to see how many of those assets are built on kindness and caring.

These are not just school-based assets. These are assets that are promoted at home, churches, community organizations, sports teams, and recreational activities.

Let’s ***Make Kindness and Caring Common***. It’s not the complete answer, but it’s a great start as we begin to spread the word on asset-building in East Hampton!

Come to a discussion on this survey, the results, and our *Making Kindness and Caring Common* initiative at the **Superintendent’s Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, September 21 at 94 Main Street, 9:00 AM.**

(If you would like a copy of the complete 107-page report, e-mail me at [psmith@easthamptonct.org](mailto:psmith@easthamptonct.org).)

**Next week:** research by Harvard University: *The Children We Mean To Raise: The Real Messages Adults Are Sending About Values.*



# The John Fidler Memorial Scholarship

Please send donations to:

East Hampton High School  
John Fidler Memorial Scholarship  
c/o Linda Malavasi  
15 North Maple Street  
East Hampton, Connecticut 06424

Checks payable to:  
'East Hampton High School'

Another great year is ahead!



Paul Smith

