

# Parent Connections

Official Newsletter of the PTA of EWSIS  
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## East-West School of International Studies

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Gjemile Pervizaj, *Dean of Student Affairs*  
Jeannie Park, *Guidance Counselor*  
Carlos Diaz, *Guidance Counselor*

## PTA Executive Board

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Denise Eng, *Communications Chairperson*  
Rita Lopez, *Fundraising Chairperson*

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## PTA News

Dear East-West Families,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year and a warm welcome into 2011! As we began a new year, we look forward to a year full of new beginnings and new experiences in our school community.

We are especially excited by the upcoming school musical, "The Spelling Bee" which is scheduled for this coming May. We encourage all our budding actors and singers to audition with Ms. Hartong this month.

This month is also the beginning of many important exams for our students, such as the upcoming NYS Regents exams. We want to encourage our HS students to take advantage of our school's after-school Regents tutoring classes. Find the class schedule at [http://ewsis.org/after\\_school](http://ewsis.org/after_school).

With the school's budget cuts, we will continue to raise more funds to provide the extra support to the teachers and students that is needed for a successful learning environment. We are very thankful for your generous support in the past and hope that you will continue to be supportive of our fundraising efforts this coming year.

As always, we are open to suggestions and new ideas. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at [pta@ewsis.org](mailto:pta@ewsis.org), and if you would like to get involved more, we encourage you to join our PTA team.

Sincerely,  
PTA Executive Board

We welcome any feedback for future issues of our parent newsletter. Please send any suggestions to the PTA at [pta@ewsis.org](mailto:pta@ewsis.org).

Introducing a new way for you to learn about daily life at East-West...

Check out the school's new blog at  
<http://ewsis.wordpress.com/>



# A Word from Our Principal...



## Calendar of Events

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin our new year, I would like to emphasize the importance of all students coming to school prepared to learn. Students should arrive each day on time equipped with the appropriate tools for learning: notebooks, pens, textbooks, completed homework assignments, and questions for their teachers. They should be dressed in our East-West school uniform. Items that distract from learning such as cell phones, music devices, game players, and amounts of money exceeding twenty dollars are inappropriate and should not be brought to school. Possession of these items makes students targets for theft. Chancellor Black has forbidden the above electronics on school premises for this reason.

All students have been assigned designated lockers to store their outerwear. Please remind your child to use a lock on his/her hallway locker as well as a separate lock on their gymnasium locker.

The New Year is a good time for children to turn over a new leaf and to make a new beginning. All students should be striving for a grade point average of 85% or better as this will prepare them for college admission. To help students reach this goal, in addition to our fine classroom teaching, we also offer after school tutoring in all subjects as well as a robust extra-curricular program. I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Warm Regards,

Ben Sherman  
Principal

- 01/08 ..... PTA General Membership Mtg.  
@ 10 AM
- 01/11 ..... NYS English Regents  
No school for HS students except for those taking the exam
- 01/17 ..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
School Closed
- 01/21 ..... End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period
- 01/25 ..... SLT Meeting  
@ 6:30 PM
- 01/25 – 01/28 ..... NYS Regents Exams  
No school for HS students except for those taking the exams
- 01/31 .. Chancellor's Conference Day for HS  
No school for HS students
  
- 02/05 ..... PTA General Membership Mtg.  
@ 10 AM
- 02/15 ..... SLT Meeting  
@ 6:30 PM
- 02/21 – 02/25 ..... Midwinter Recess  
School Closed

### Classroom Highlights

On Thursday, January 13, 2011, about 15 of our students will sing the Korean National Anthem and the American National Anthem at the 51<sup>st</sup> Korean Night Gala & Korean American Day Celebration at the New York Marriott Marquis Time Square.



# Teachers' Corner



## Auditions

For our School play "The Spelling Bee" will be held Wednesday, January 19th from 3-5 pm in the Auditorium.

The play is open to **ALL** East-West students 6-12, no experience necessary. Students must be prepared to stay for the whole audition. Students who are interested in assisting backstage **MUST** also come to the auditions.

Performances are May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### What to bring:

A snack  
Something to write with  
Comfortable clothes  
A prepared song (even Happy Birthday is fine!)

Any questions! Email Ms. Hartong at [mhartong@ewsis.org](mailto:mhartong@ewsis.org)

## Upcoming Trips:

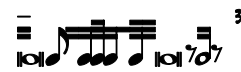
### **SUNY Overnight College Trip**

For 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders  
March 24-25  
\$165 due on January 18<sup>th</sup>  
See Mrs. Park for more details

## Summer Abroad Opportunity

Preparations are underway for East-West's second summer trip to Japan. East-West high school students will visit Nagoya, Japan's third largest metropolitan area. Students will stay with host families in the suburbs of Nagoya, enjoying meals and conversation with host families, while participating in various cultural activities daily. The trip will take place at the end of the school year and is open to all high school students in good academic standing, including current 8th graders who will stay at East-West for high school. Additional details will be announced as they become available. Interested students should contact Mr. Bantz at [dbantz@ewsis.org](mailto:dbantz@ewsis.org)

## Announcing...



Mandatory for all 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and/or their parents

Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM

OR

Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

In Room 409