

Parent Connections

Official Newsletter of the PTA of EWSIS

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East-West School of International Studies

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Seung Oh, *Assistant Principal*

Mala Panday, *Assistant Principal I.A.*

Gjemile Pervizaj, *Dean of Student Affairs*

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Carlos Diaz, *Guidance Counselor*

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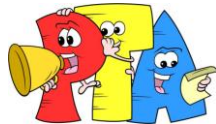
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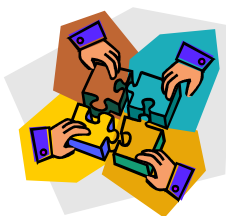
Rita Lopez, *Fundraising Chairperson*



E-mail Address: pta@ewsis.org

We welcome any feedback for future issues of our parent newsletter. Please send any suggestions to the PTA at pta@ewsis.org

If any parents would like to volunteer to be a part of the Newsletter or Fundraising committees, please see any PTA Executive Board Member.



PTA News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the new school year! For returning parents, it is great to have you back. To parents who are new to East-West, we warmly welcome your presence and participation. At East-West School, parents, teachers, and administrators, have a shared goal: to provide the best education and chance for success in life for our children. The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is one of the best ways parents can be involved in their children's lives. By staying in touch with what is happening at school, and getting to know the teachers and other staff at East-West, a parent is better able to help their own child to succeed academically. Please do attend our monthly meetings, generally held on the first Saturday of each month. By joining the PTA and coming to our meetings you are sending a strong signal to your children: Education is Important. Your active involvement with the PTA not only strengthens our school, but can also help you navigate the treacherous "teen years" and give you the support you need to help make your child's school year fruitful and fulfilling.

With this in mind, we are delighted to offer our first edition for this school year of *Parent Connections*, a newsletter designed to give parents information about what is happening at the school and with the education of their children. *Parent Connections* was created by the PTA Communications Committee Chair, Denise Eng. We are grateful to her hard work in putting this publication together each month and appreciative of the forum it offers the PTA, administrators and teachers of East-West School. It is our hope that the information contained in it will be of use to our parents and that new lines of communication will develop as the newsletter grows in scope. Please send your comments and story ideas to pta@ewsis.org. We would love to get your feedback and look forward to working together with you to make 2010-2011 a great year for our kids.

Sincerely,
PTA Executive Board
East-West School of International Studies

A Word from Our Principal...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. There are some changes that I would like to discuss here. The most visible are our two new Assistant Principals, Ms. Seung Oh (High School) and Ms. Mala Panday (Middle School). Ms. Oh was a math teacher, school programmer, technology coordinator, and teacher coach, and she was selected among the many candidates interviewed at our C-30 Committee meeting last May. Ms. Panday was a science teacher at East-West and was recently promoted at the end of August when the position was suddenly available. Both were raised here in Queens and have been working very hard for our school since the beginning of the school year.

We have refocused our period 8 classes so that each targets students who are struggling in reading or math, or who need to recover credits at the high school level. These classes are extremely small, often having only one to five students per teacher. These classes meet for 37.5 minutes on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday only. Our goal is to concentrate on our weakest students.

There are some important changes to our school day:

On Thursday and Friday, all students are released at 2:10 pm.

On Monday to Thursday, school begins at 7:50 am, and on Friday at 8 am.

We have several new teachers: Mr. Bernor (Earth Science); Ms. Binaso (English); Ms. Gordon (History); Ms. Hartong (Drama); Ms. Jones (Reading); Ms. Lee (Special Ed/Math); Ms. Reichert (ESL); Mr. Shibata (Physics); and Ms. Yang (Math). Ms. Hartong, will be directing a school play which will be open to any student in any grade. In our high school, instead of Chemistry, we are now offering Regents Physics. Ms. Prout is teaching English while our Ms. Abraham is out on maternity leave.

Our budget is tighter this year than ever before. This will mean reductions in our after school program as well as a reduction in overtime hours allotted to our staff. As such, I am looking for several parents to be regular scheduled volunteers at our school office. Let me know if you have free time to help us during this difficult year.

On a positive note, we graduated sixty five students this past June. One graduate joined the US Navy and the other sixty-four continued on to university. One of them, Sam Cheng, just placed into the highest level Japanese class at SUNY New Paltz.

I am looking forward to meeting each and every one of you at our monthly PTA meetings and welcome you to visit our school often.

Warm Regards,

Ben Sherman
Principal



Important Reminder:

Parents & Guardians,

Please complete & return updated blue cards and your school lunch forms to the Main Office, Room 428, as soon as possible. The lunch forms help determine the Title 1 funds that the school receives. Your assistance and cooperation is much appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Arroyo.

