

March 24, 2009

Dear Members of the Eastern Middle School Community:

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your input as we gather data about the viability of a plan for a voluntary after school program at Eastern Middle School.

Since the decision was taken to return our school to a seven period day for the 2009-2010 school year, our Community Superintendent, Dr. Morrison, and I have been working to identify ways in which we could support increased choices for students transitioning from the current structure to our new schedule.

One promising idea would be to offer a eighth class to students who would volunteer to add a course after school. The class would meet Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:47 until 4:10, after which students would have access to the activity buses to return home. Three days of the 83 minute classes provide approximately the same instructional time as five days of 50 minute classes.

Before we can go forward with planning such an offering, I need your help. One size never fits all, and this program will certainly not meet the needs of every student. On the other hand, if it will provide a workable alternative choice for enough students to put a class or two together, Dr. Morrison and I would like to try to make it happen.

The data I need to collect reflect your interest in enrolling your child in an additional class after school. If you are not interested in this option, it is not necessary to reply to this letter. If you are interesting in your child's participation in this program, please fill out the attached form and return it to Eastern. The deadline for your response is Tuesday, April 14, 2009. Depending on interest from students we will be able to determine if it is possible to offer this eighth period.

I know you may have questions about this proposal. We have planned a meeting to talk about this idea on Monday, March 30, from 7:00 until 8:00 PM in the Eastern Middle School cafeteria. Language facilitation will be available for Spanish speakers. You are invited to come out to ask questions that might help you decide if you are interested in participating.

Your response is vital to our capacity to make plans that suit the needs of our community. Thanks for your thoughtful input.

Respectfully,

Charlotte Chakan Boucher  
Principal

**Eastern Middle School**

**Optional Eighth Class Interest Response Form**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in 2009-2010: \_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Information

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phones - home: \_\_\_\_\_ work: \_\_\_\_\_ cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Our family is interested in adding an after school class three days a week for our child's schedule next year. If this possibility becomes a reality, we understand that the additional class might meet during the school day with one of his/her other classes meeting after school.

We have already selected 7 classes for our child. The class we would choose to add to our child's schedule is: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are not interested in this option, it is not necessary to return this form.**

**If you are interested in this option, please return this form to the Counseling Office at Eastern Middle School no later than April 14, 2009.**