



# EHS Ram News

Fall 2018

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*Eastside's 2018-19 National Merit Semifinalists*

## Eastside Leads Alachua County in National Merit Semifinalists

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Congratulations to Abhimanyu Banerjee, Emma Kyes, Nathan Parks, Shreya Pathak, Julie Peeling, Isabella Quintana, Alexander Robertson, Grace Tovkach, Kathleen Yang, and Ying Yu for being named as semifinalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. excellence. They earned some of the nation's highest scores on the PSAT to qualify, which placed them in the top one percent of more than 1.6 million students.

In hopes of becoming National Merit Finalists in the spring, the semifinalists have each submitted a scholarship application, teacher recommendations, and an essay. Additionally, they must earn high SAT scores. Finalists are eligible for scholarships from the National Merit organization, individual universities, and other organizations.

**Ten out of 24 semifinalists in Alachua County are seniors at EHS!**

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What is more important: the journey or the destination? Finance class teaches that there are no get-rich-quick schemes. Life is a crock pot and not a microwave. It takes hard work, determination, perseverance, discipline, patience, and understanding. Time is the most precious commodity. How you spend it or give it is up to each individual!

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-Mr. Moramarco



### Financial Algebra Students Take a Fun Field Trip to Dave Ramsey's Headquarters in Tennessee.

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On October 18-20, four EHS Financial Algebra students, Adriana Cortes-Urbina, Destinee Fleming, Quentin Glover, and Afi McNeal, traveled to the Nashville area with teacher, Rob Moramarco. They worked hard to save for this trip to meet best-selling, nationally-known author and multimillionaire, Dave Ramsey. They were studio guests at a live radio/podcast show at Ramsey Solutions in Brentwood, Tennessee.

At the studio, the students received a book called *The Graduate Survival Guide: 5 Mistakes You Can't Afford to Make in College*. They met Ramsey and witnessed four families' testimonies of how they were able to become debt-free. The students had an opportunity to go sightseeing in Ramsey's neighborhood, where many notable celebrities and professional athletes also have mansions. The group then climbed to the top of a mountain for sweeping views of the surrounding area. Additionally, they crossed the landmark Natchez Trace Bridge, toured downtown Nashville/Music City, and took part in the Nashville Predators (NHL) fan fest.

## Language Acquisition with Mrs. Torres - - - - x



Mme Torres' 6th period French 2 class demonstrated great focus while working on resolving riddles and games involving new vocabulary. They were practicing new techniques in world language acquisition and demonstrated a great level of cooperation while solving problems. Bravo, period 6 French 2! Keep up the good work!



Spanish IB 3 classes have diligently worked on determining what constitutes true identity in our modern society. They performed strategic research on the IB thematic unit *Identities*,

which is one of five new IB themes for the 2020 Language B curriculum. They developed arguments and theories on the topic and then presented them in class. Students in the audience completed an IB evaluation using the IB criteria (2020) and addressed the presenters with questions. The students readily engaged in the enjoyable activities of this enriching experience. Sra. Torres would like to thank periods 1 and 5 Spanish 3 for all their hard work and enthusiasm!

This fall, **French IB 4** students have engaged in interactive oral activities on the topic of social media. It is clear, in today's society, that the internet plays a huge role in young people's lives. Students must be aware of advantages and drawbacks linked to the use of social media and the internet, in general. Madame Torres' fourth period class, made up of 31 juniors and seniors, participated in a series of four debates. Each team was divided into two "camps", each representing a "pro" or a "con" on four major, higher-order essential questions in French related to the topic. The debates were thought-provoking, and the student audience, when not debating themselves, had to take notes and question the debaters. The students enjoyed a great interchange of arguments and ideas in French. They showed intelligence, deep reflection on the subject, super reasoning, extraordinary insights, and were able to effectively communicate their thoughts and emotions in the target language on the subject. Mme Torres is very proud of them!



## Makerspace Report

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On September 21, the whole Media Center turned into a Makerspace to help IB students complete some of their required CAS hours. Different stations, such as quilting, peace posters, and peace bracelets, were set up so students could artistically express their feelings about International Peace Day. About 130 students attended this event. A second event is planned for December, where students will be participating in projects such as paper engineering, origami, sewing, and other crafts. The goal is to make something students can share this holiday season.

Sarah Grainger, a public librarian in the neighborhood Cone Library Branch, collaborated with EHS to bring a spooky Halloween activity using Ozobots, the incredible tiny robots. The goal was for students to learn to color code the robot paths so they could save the world. Mrs. Grainger is planning to attend the December CAS event to help students with their paper engineering projects. We love collaborating with the Alachua County Public Library!



## Eastside NJROTC

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The EHS NJROTC Color Guard Unit presents the Colors at the Annual Cystic Fibrosis UF Tailgate and Silent Auction Fundraiser on October 27th in Williston. Our cadets have been busy representing their school this fall, including hosting an NJROTC Competition at Eastside on October 6th.

## Leadership Training Class

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This year, Eastside is proud to offer a leadership training class, for the first time in conjunction with the Jobs For Graduates program. Ms. Josephine Brown comments,

“Our experience with this program is providing some insights that are not usually given to high school students.” The vision for the participants in this special program includes graduating from high school, attending college, and becoming productive citizens.



The class is made up of students with diverse interests. There are several football players, a swim team member, a musician, cheerleaders, and many more. On October 23, the students and administration enjoyed the Initiation and Installation Ceremony. This special event helped to solidify the participants' positive feelings about being a part of such a winning team.

Ms. Brown would like to congratulate the program members who achieved honor roll in the 1st 9-weeks grading period. Congrats to Dominic Byrne, Arianna Cromarty, Janya Davis, Ke'asia Davis, Samantha D'oleo, Aaryon Forman, Bobby Gordon, James Pope, Jabari Roberson, Mike Robinson, Kamiyah Sams, Emontea Shannon, and Ijae Taylor!



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## ***Swim & Dive Team Makes a Splash!***

*Congrats to both our boys' and girls' swim & dive teams for winning district! This is the boys' 4th consecutive district title. The girls' team has now won five consecutive district and regional titles, and they placed in the top 8 teams at state this year, earning 14 total medals. In addition, the 200 medley relay team (Adriana Cortes-Urbina, Tanya Thatayatikom, Britney Chu, Chloe Fowler) achieved a school record.*

***Great job, swimmers and Coach Jon Allen!***



## **EHS Football Players Named to FACA All-Senior & All-District Teams**

Congratulations to Pete Meyers, Deondre Ivery, Sheldon Hardy for making the all-senior team, and to Deion Jenkins, Anthony Richardson, Sheldon Hardy for making the all-district team. Sheldon was the only player chosen for both teams. The seniors that were selected were also nominated to play in the FACA all-star game.

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## Cross Country Runs Away with the Prize



Congratulations to Eastside Cross Country and Coach Steven Doherty for another great season. The boys' team won the district title, and the girls finished runner up. At the 2A Region 2 Finals in Weeki Wachee, the boys placed 6th out of 15 teams, qualifying for the state championship in Tallahassee. Four varsity boys (Emile Sow, Sam Disabb, Greer Matthias, and Adin Richards) earned new personal bests. Emile Sow independently qualified for State, placing 13th out of 115 athletes. At regionals, four varsity girls (Annalese Pfahler, Grace Tovkach, Ana Barb, and Taylor Hill-Miles) also earned new personal bests.

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## Fall Service Activities for the EHS Key Club - - - - X

This fall, the students of Eastside's Key Club have gone above and beyond in their participation as active members in our community. Key Club hopes to spark the spirit of volunteerism in each member, to aid the local community and beyond, with the students' own interests, in ways that make a lasting impact. Students have acted as mentors for children attending Lake Forest Elementary School, in hopes of imparting their enthusiasm for reading. Others have signed up to participate in the monthly group activities that visit both the Grace Marketplace and Ronald McDonald House. At Grace Marketplace, the students have the chance to support the local homeless community by preparing a full meal, including homemade desserts contributed by other Key Club members. Ronald McDonald House offers students the opportunity to prepare breakfast for the families of young patients healing at Shands, in order to create one less worry for them. From crafting cards for our local VA Hospital to helping the pet adoption events run smoothly for the local humane societies, these focused students have shown impressive dedication, not only to the Key Club, but also to the important aspects of being *Respectful*, *Accountable*, and *Motivated* Eastside students.



*Above:* Apoorva Kumar (11) participating in the first Helping Hands adoption event of the fall that he helped organize for our Key Club chapter.



*Right Top Corner:* Ying Yu (12) (front left) showcases the delicious final products created by her group for breakfast at Ronald McDonald House.



*Right Bottom Corner:* These students are helping prepare meals for the Grace Marketplace group activity.

## Eastside Robotics Club Recognized by Local Media for National Contest Placement - - - - x

TV20 News and the *Gainesville Sun* recently featured stories on the EHS Robotics team that highlighted its accomplishments in a national contest. The team's application was selected out of thousands as one of five state finalists in Samsung's 2018-2019 Solve for Tomorrow



contest. The students submitted an idea to use the VEX Robot as an ALICE solution for attacking intruders. In this first phase of the contest, they were awarded a Samsung tablet, which will be used by the team to program robots. They now move into the second phase to compete for the state winner title. The team must develop and submit an activity plan that will be judged based on the following criteria: problem applicability, community involvement/impact, application of STEM studies, feasibility, and originality. At the national level, they will have the opportunity to win \$100,000 for the school.

**Congratulations and good luck to the Eastside Robotics team!**

## Announcements:

- Congratulations to our fall PBIS Students of the Month! Thanks for being true **R.A.M.s!**
  - *September:* **Jaelyn Daniels**
  - *October:* **Dominic Cruz-Bunoy**
  - *November:* **Clayton Gillis**
- Congratulations to **Maria Zelaya** who was selected as Eastside's Teacher of the Year, as well as the county's High School Teacher of the Year! She is one of three finalists for the district's overall Teacher of the Year.
- All students should have received their public library card. If you need help getting a replacement copy, or you never got your card in the first place, please stop by the EHS Media Center, and Ms. Johnson or Ms. Antony will be happy to help you order a new one.



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