United Way of Erie County Community Schools I 23-24 YEAR IN REVIEW









SCHOOL CULTURE

INCREASED FEELINGS OF PRIDE AND SAFETY



81% of student survey respondents agree that they feel welcome at East.



93% of staff survey respondents agree that the Community School Model adds value to East.



77% of staff, family and student survey respondents report a feeling of pride in attending or working at East.



14% DECREASE IN ONE YEAR!



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

DECREASED TRUANCY INDICATORS



(Absences that are unexcused and contributing to truancy)

8,717	10,678	9,929
21-22	22-23	23-24







KEY TO SUCCESS

In the 23-24 school year, East utilized United Way funding to give all eight academic teams the opportunity for community or classroom-based enrichment opportunities that align with the core curriculum. Some enrichment experiences included visiting the Bayfront Maritime Museum, field trips to the Erie Playhouse, and a live performance by Kahil El'zabar's Ethnic Heritage Ensemble. Providing unique and consistent enrichment experiences for students makes them feel excited for and connected to school!











FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

INCREASED FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

In the 23-24 school year, East:

- experienced a 9 point increase in the percentage of students whose quardians attended parent/teacher conferences
- held 51 student, staff and family engagement events
- hosted their first annual Family Bingo Night, which hit full capacity and was requested to be an annual event by family attendees





East Success Story: Writers in the Schools with Werner Books



In the fall of 2023, East partnered with locally-owned Werner Books and Slippery Rock University for the Writers in the Schools (WITS) program. Supervised by professor and Werner Books coowner Dr. Lauren Shoemaker, senior creative writing students from SRU led a three-week workshop where East students contributed a spooky writing piece to a collective anthology. The program sparked a love for language arts and reading, and provided mentorship opportunities between the SRU and East students!



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

ROBUST PARTNERSHIPS MADE EAST'S YEAR A GREAT ONE!

In the 23-24 school year, East was grateful for:

- 86 volunteers contributing over 160 hours of time to events and programs
- Over \$3,400 of in-kind donations from 10 unique donors
- 71% of action plan strategies benefiting from a community partnership



SPECIAL THANKS



East would like to extend a special thank you to the Mercyhurst University Social Work Program, who aligned an intern supporting the community school initiative at East in the 23-24 school year. Through the partnership, the intern was able to not only support daily Community Closet and in-school programming, but also piloted a Check-In/Check-Out preventative attendance initiative, the Buddy Project. This partnership significantly impacted our work in removing non-academic barriers for students! East is also grateful for their lead partner UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor for their continued dedication and support for the Community School Model.