A Look Back at 2018
East Mountain High School

January
EMHS sponsors an alumni panel, a workshop for current students to get advice from EMHS graduates representing colleges all over the country. Our speakers represented Columbia College, UC Boulder, NM Tech., Tulane University, and UNM.

Gina Sanchez ’18 makes history by repeating as the Varsity Congressional Debate State Champion for a second year in a row. Gina also earns admission and full scholarship to Stanford University, the world’s most competitive college.

February
Humanities Instructor Jesse Schwebach earns the prestigious National Board Certification. National Board Certification was designed to develop, retain, and recognize accomplished teachers and to generate ongoing improvement in schools nationwide. It is considered the most respected professional certification available in K-12 education. Mr. Schwebach joins the ranks of other National Board teachers at EMHS: Brenda Wilvert, Dr. Diane Ball, and Crystal Wood.

The EMHS Dance Team finishes 2nd place in the Spirit of Hope Competition.

The EMHS Bowling Team repeats as the 2018 New Mexico State Champions. This marks the 8th state championship for the Timberwolves and Coach Belden.

EMHS Student Council is awarded Student Council of the Year Gold Level at the State Conference!

March
The Youth and Government program sponsored by Jesse Schwebach hosts a voter registration drive at school. Over 80 EMHS students register to vote on this one day!

The EMHS Dance Team receives national recognition for superior excellence and the highest possible score at the American Drill and Dance Competition.

Our Spanish IV and V classes visited Adobe Acres Elementary School for a bilingual service project.
April

Our newly formed **Interact Club**, a group devoted to service projects, volunteered at the Rotary Club Governor’s Ball.

**Marissa Case ’20** wins the 3200m at the Golden Spike Invitational in Santa Fe.

The **EMHS Baseball Team** qualifies for the State Tournament as an 11 seed.

EMHS earns a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place global ranking in the **International Public Policy Forum**. The team of **Gina Sanchez ’18, Tiffany Delgado ’19, and Hannah Linder ’19** were engaged in a debate contest where they finished higher than over 300 teams from across the globe. In April, they earn an all-expense paid trip to New York City to debate the top 8 teams in person. EMHS defeats the previous year’s world champion in the first round and finishes the contest with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place ranking.

May

Our 85 seniors cross the stage at the Class of 2018 graduation ceremony. Students are awarded over $2.4 million dollars in scholarships and more than 95% will be attending a college or university after graduation. Collectively, the Class of 2018 earns 1,591 college credits before graduating from high school, an average of more than 18.7 per student. Zoe Peters receives her Associate’s Degree in Liberal Arts and Jennifer Valdez receives her Associate’s Degree in Biology from Central New Mexico Community College.

In conjunction with Discovery Projects, **Mr. Michael Wood** and the music program sponsor **Music on the Grass**, an afternoon of local music on the front field.

EMHS performs well in the NMAA State Track and Field Championship. **Rubie Trotter ’18** finishes 6<sup>th</sup> in the 1600m, **Elias Padilla ’18** finishes 6<sup>th</sup> place in the 400m, and **Marissa Case ’20**, places 4<sup>th</sup> in the 3200m.

**EMHS** celebrates Star Wars Day on **May the Fourth** with some local storm troopers!

June

EMHS makes its 10<sup>th</sup> appearance in the world’s largest academic competition: the National Speech and Debate Tournament, held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. **Katelyn Key ’18; Gina Sanchez ’18; Kathryn Jones ‘18; Atalie Brown ‘18; Samantha Maloy ‘18; Kellen Nee ‘19; Tiffany Delgado ’19, Hannah Linder ’19; Autumn Hamman ’20, and Steffen Ortiz ’20** represent EMHS in the competition after qualifying at the state level. **Gina Sanchez ’18** is named one of six finalists for National Student of the Year, and **Tiffany Delgado ‘19** finishes 11<sup>th</sup> place overall in Impromptu Speaking.
**July**

Nine students, more than any other NM school, earn spots to the **Conference on National Affairs** in North Carolina, based on their participation in **Youth and Government**. The delegation includes: Kathryn Jones ’18, Autumn Shields ’18, Hannah Linder ‘19, Tiffany Delgado ‘19, Emma Hotz ‘18, Harrison Kuszmaul ‘19, Ciel LaZar ’20, Madison Kelsh ’20, and Kelsey Smith ’20.

**Coach Trey Smith and Gina Sanchez ’18** are the headlining speakers of the 2018 **TED Talk** Education event at the Kimo Theatre in Albuquerque.

**Dr. Diane Ball** is named one of five finalists for National History Teacher of the Year. She earned this distinction after being named the 2018 New Mexico History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

**August**

The **East Mountain High School Foundation** holds the 18th Annual **Golf Tournament**, followed by the 18th Annual **Gala** at Paa-Ko Ridge Golf Club. Both events raise over $100,000 in support of East Mountain High School.

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**EMHS receives an “A” from the New Mexico Public Education Department.** Since the inception of the school grading system, EMHS is one of only eight schools to receive an “A” every year.

**September**

EMHS hosts the fifth annual **Timberwolf Trail Run**. Over $4,000 is raised for EMHS Athletics.

The Cross Country Program also hosts the annual **Nick Martin Memorial Invitation**.

**Student Council** hosts **Senior Sunet**, a new event that allows the senior class an opportunity to bond in an evening of fun and games at school.

**Ryan Chavez ’18 and Vincent Romero ’18** are named National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars. The prestigious honor is based on GPA and high PSAT scores.
October
EMHS Volleyball hosts the annual Dig Pink event, raising over $2,300 for cancer research.

In one of the highlights of our school’s history, East Mountain High School earns the prestigious U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon Award! EMHS is the only high school in New Mexico to be honored with the award in 2018. Specifically, EMHS is recognized for closing the achievement gap.

In October, the entire EMHS community comes together to celebrate the achievement, with local elected officials, parents, school founders, and past Governing Council members.

Speech and Debate hosts the 10th annual Top of the World Speech and Debate Tournament, hosting hundreds of students from dozens of schools.

November
Student Council hosts a First Responders Breakfast, an opportunity to show gratitude to the Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Dept., Bernalillo County Fire Dept., and Ski Patrol.

Girls Cross Country wins the District 5-AAA Championship.

Girls Soccer qualifies to the State Playoffs.

December
The Pack sponsors Light the Night, an evening of holiday lights, music, and crafts. The Music Program puts on a concert and the gym is filled with craft vendors. The Cross Country Trail and Peace Garden are decorated with thousands of light displays for The Enlightened Trail.

The EMHS Foundation hosts the first ever All Alumni Holiday Reunion at O’Niell’s. Over 80 alumni representing every graduating class from 2004-2018 are in attendance. Mackenzie Bishop ’04 is named the Outstanding Alumni of the Year. Mackenzie was the school’s first valedictorian and is currently the owner of Abrazo Homes, one of New Mexico’s best small businesses. Mackenzie also serves as our Foundation Board President and the presenting sponsor of our Gala and Golf Tournament.