

1 3 1 EXAMPLES OF EXCELLENCE



09/08/09

1,400 AT RED & BLACK PRIDE



On Thursday, August 20, over 1,400 staff members of D131 kicked-off the school year at the annual Red & Black Pride Day Ceremony! The

energy was high, the enthusiasm was higher, and the dedication to education was the highest of all! Guests included State Representative Linda Chapa Lavia, Mayor Weisner, Henry Cowherd, Theresa Shoemaker, and West Aurora Supt. Dr. James Rydland.

FATHERS MAKE COMMITMENT

Fathers in D131 joined with over 800,000 fathers throughout the nation to commit to the education of their children! D131 hosted its first Fatherhood Matters Breakfast in conjunction with the Million



Father March. Over 100 fathers registered to take their children to school on the first day and nearly 50 of those dads attended a breakfast where they were inspired and informed about opportunities to make a commitment to the educational lives of their children in D131.

SECOND WAVE OF SOLDIERS RETURN TO EA!



Lights! Cameras! Action! The second wave of National Guard Soldiers returned home to their base at East Aurora High School after a yearlong mission in Afghanistan and throngs of family, fans, friends, and media were there to greet them! The soldiers are members of the National Guard's 106th Cavalry 2nd Squadron (Charlie Troop). One final wave of soldiers will return to East High within the next month.

ERIN GRUWELL INSPIRES!



Bardwell Teacher, Scott Strand, and his sons (and D131 students), Brian and Erik, meet with Erin Gruwell during her visit to AU.

Staff and students of D131 were inspired by celebrated teacher & author, Erin Gruwell. Gruwell was sponsored by Aurora University to speak to the Aurora Community about her new book, *Teaching Hope!* Her story inspired the hit movie, *Freedom Writers*, and spent weeks on the bestsellers list.

TOMCAT ALUMNI TAILGATE!



The East Aurora Alumni Association hosted its first Tomcat Alumni Tailgate Party prior to the East-West Varsity Football Game. Alumni from all across the country returned to their Alma Mater to greet old friends, tour the school, and cheer on the next generation of Tomcats!