

# East Aurora School District 131

## NEWS RELEASE

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*Making Choices for Excellence*

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### **BOXING CHAMP VISITS EAST HIGH NEXT WEEK**

(Aurora) - The three-time Welterweight Champion of the World Boxing Association, **Jose Antonio Rivera**, will inspire students at East Aurora High School when he visits next week.

On **Friday, March 12 at 1:15 p.m.**, Rivera will address nearly 1,000 students in Physical Education, Health, and NJROTC classes during two assemblies held in the East High Gymnasium.

Since becoming a professional boxer at 19 years old, Rivera fought his way to the titles of two-time Massachusetts State Champion, USBA Regional Champion, IBO World Champion, and the NABA Champion prior to becoming the three-time Welterweight Championship of the World Boxing Association (WBA).

Jose Rivera, known in the boxing world as El Gallo, defined his dream of becoming a world champion at the young age of eight years old. After his mother's death when he was ten years old, Rivera struggled to maintain his happiness as he moved to the homes of various family members. After moving in with an aunt at the age of 16 years old, Rivera reignited the pursuit of his dream by participating in a boxing program at the Worcester Boys and Girls Club in Massachusetts. It was here that he learned the importance of education and believing in dreams.

Rivera now travels the country motivating and encouraging students to focus on education, to pursue their wildest dreams, and to fight for what is right.

Jose Rivera's visit to East Aurora High School is sponsored by USANA Health Sciences and the Cervantes family.

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