



Volume XXV, Issue 9

April, 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER



April 1
 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.



April 2 & 5
 NO SCHOOL



April 12
 School Board Mtg.
 7:30 p.m. in ITV room



April 17
 Jr./Sr. Prom



April 21
 LATE START
 10:00 a.m.



April 27
 High School Spring Concert
 7:30 p.m.



MATH DEPT. CELEBRATES PI



Freshmen math students show off their Pi Prince & Princess Crowns. Pictured are (back l. to r.) Nick Heithoff, Garett Schindler, Andrew Heithoff, Cordell Waterbury, and Michael Braband (front l. to r.) Alex Grosserode, Blake Anderson, and Angela Richart.

Elgin Public Math Department celebrated π -day on March 15. (It should have been celebrated on March 14—3/14). Students involved were from grades 4 through 12. Each student received a name badge with π and the first 30-digits on π on it! Student participants in the following stations.

- **Station 1: π -history** --- In the high school lab, students used computers to investigate the history of π . Did you know that the value of π was calculated over 3500 years ago? Archimedes (around 250 BC) calculated π by dividing the circumference by its diameter.
- **Station 2: estimating π** --- Students were given several round objects and were told to measure the circumference and diameter of the object. With a calculator, they calculated π ($\pi = \frac{C}{d}$)
- **Station 3: π necklace** --- Students were given guidelines to create a multi-colored necklace with a jingle bell on the end. Each colored bead represented a different digit of π .
- **Station 4: π crowns!** --- Each student was given material to create a crown with a medallion so that every student would be either a π -princess or a π -prince!!

Students were asked to dress as a nerd or as Albert Einstein in honor of his birthday. Best costume was Jordan Dietz. A tie for second place was between Christopher Bush and Travis Grosserode. The student who memorized the most digits of π was Julianna Dunn. Each of these students were awarded Elgin Bucks as a prize!

Special thanks to the math students and their teachers: Ms. Siems, Ms. Rethmeier, and Miss Johnson.

Spelling Bee Participants



Kelsey Shoemaker, Tera Henkenius, and Hayley Stamp, 7th graders, represented Elgin Public in the 7th and 8th Grade Competition at the Antelope Spelling Contest. The Contest was held in Clearwater on Monday, February 22nd.

Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.

Dale Carnegie

Elgin Public PASS System



Parents and students can access student's current grades through the EPS website:

www.elgineagles.org

Click on Schoolmaster and enter the student ID number and PIN. If you have questions, please call the school.

Elgin Early Learning Preschool

is now accepting enrollments for the 2010-2011 school year.

Developmentally appropriate classes are held Monday through Friday 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

- For children 3 or 4 years of age (must be 3 years old by October 15).
- Breakfast & Lunch available.
- State accredited preschool.
- National accredited preschool.
- Certified teacher endorsed in Early Childhood with 10 years experience.

Tuition is \$40 per month unless you qualify for free/reduced lunch program.

To register your child, please call Sue Vanis at school 843-2455.



Noteworthy News

By Mrs. Deb Jones

The Elgin Elementary Solo-Ensemble Contest was held Saturday, March 27, 2010. Twelve schools participated including: Clearwater, Stanton, St. Edward, Cedar Rapids, Verdigre, Orchard, Neligh-Oakdale, North Loop-Scotia, Battle Creek, Spalding Public, Spalding Academy and Elgin.

Four judges rated the students for their performances. They were Larry Jones, Darrell Neitzke, Rob Hartung, and Randy Neuharth.

These are the results of the Elgin students. We received 31 Superiors (1) and 1 Excellent (2). The Cadet Band also received a Superior.

Congratulations to all the students on a wonderful representation of Elgin Public Schools!

Kelsey Shoemaker	Alto Sax Solo	I
Christopher Bush	Alto Sax Solo	I
Elianne Heilhecker	Flute Solo	I
Jaime Hoefler	Clarinet Solo	I
Zoey Bergman	Clarinet Solo	I
Emily Pinkelman	Snare Drum Solo	I
Madison Voborny	Snare Drum Solo	I
Ivy Prater	Alto Sax Solo	I
Hannah Kerkman	Clarinet Solo	I
Allison Koenig	Clarinet Solo	I
Bailey Carpenter	Clarinet Solo	I
Jon Shaw	Trumpet Solo	I
Geoffrey Carr	Trumpet Solo	I
Kenny Bush	Trombone Solo	I
Luke Walsh	Trombone Solo	I
Ryan Warner	Snare Drum Solo	I
Taya Voborny	Snare Drum Solo	I
Tiarra Thramer	Flute Solo	II
Brett Kinney	Trumpet Solo	I
Morgan Carpenter	Flute Solo	I
Tera Henkenius	Alto Sax Solo	I
Sharla Schindler	Flute Solo	I
Hayley Stamp	Clarinet Solo	I
Avenley Short	Clarinet Solo	I
A J Getzfred	Alto Sax Solo	I
Kelsey Welding	Alto Sax Solo	I
Brandi Sanderson	Clarinet Solo	I
Dylan Widger	Alto Sax Solo	I
Taven Cameron	Alto Sax Solo	I
Sawyer Kuhl	Trombone Solo	I
Alois Warner	Baritone Solo	I
Christian Lundgren	Snare Drum Solo	I
All Students (5-6)	Cadet Band	I

SCIENCE FAIR WRAP-UP

Though the weather was dreary, there was an outstanding attendance for the 8th annual EPS science fair!! Visitors were treated to an informative and interesting night of science as students showed off the bounties of their diligent work. Thanks to everyone who attended—your support is greatly appreciated!



Briann and Christy demonstrated the process they used to find the amount of CaCO_3 in eggshells.

If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it.

William Arthur Ward

2010 YEARBOOK

Don't forget to purchase your 2010 yearbook before the end of the year! Contact Michelle, Jamie, Allen or Mrs. Heithoff to purchase yours for \$30 or download a form from the webpage under "Activities>Yearbook". Personalization is no longer available.

PHOTO FOLDERS

If you ordered a photo folder at the beginning of the year it will be ready April 23rd for Seniors. Bring in your payment (\$10 for individual and \$15 for family) and a CD to download your file. Folders for other students will be ready by the end of the year.
Mrs. Heithoff



Ivy shows off the project she created for Health Science Meet.



Students tested the reaction times of willing participants, and males were still found to be quicker than females.

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

Helen Keller

Kindergarten Round-up

May 4th

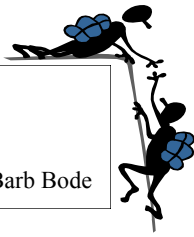
Kindergarten round-up will be held May 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Kindergarten room in the new elementary building

One parent should be present to fill out the registration form. Please bring your child's immunization record, birth certificate and social security number. We are required by state law to have an official copy of your child's birth certificate on file.

If you plan to register your student in Kindergarten at the Elgin Public School, please attend the round-up on the evening of May 4, at 7:00 p.m. If you cannot attend the round-up but intend to enroll your kindergartener in our school, please contact the school office at 843-2455.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Seniors ... it's decision time!

Attention seniors: If you haven't already, it's time to make the big college decision and determine which school you plan to attend. Follow our advice below to find the college that's the right fit for you.

First of all, gather and compare your college acceptance notifications, financial aid award notifications and your campus visit notes. Consider items such as:

- **Location.** Is the college too close? If you come home every weekend, you won't experience true campus life. Is the college too far away? If travel costs are prohibitive, you may not make it home as often as you'd like.
- **Cost.** Can your family afford the school? What can you expect for financial aid beyond your freshman year? Did you receive renewable scholarships? How much in student and parent loans will you need to cover expenses?
- **Academic program.** Does the college offer the program that interests you? What happens if you change majors—does the college offer other programs that interest you?

Student life. Does the school offer student activities you will enjoy? Do you like the living arrangements provided by the school? Will you have an opportunity to work on or near campus? Will the career center help you find internships, create a resume, and prepare for interviews?

As you make your decision, have a heart-to-heart talk with your parents to make sure you pick your college for the right reasons, not because it's where your friends - or your girlfriend or boyfriend - are going.

Visit EducationQuest.org for tools that can help you make the final decision including the [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#), the [College Comparison Calculator](#), and information about [student and parent loans](#).

Juniors ... start looking for scholarships

Scholarships are available to help you pay for college, but you have to apply! If you're serious about earning scholarships, plan to complete as many as 30-40 applications. Here's how to get started ...

- **Start searching!** In addition to your guidance office, check out free online sites including [ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#) - it contains over 2,000 local and state scholarships. Pay attention to scholarships current seniors are receiving - they're often listed in your local newspaper. Other sources might include your parent's employer, your employer or local service organizations.
- **Create files** and place scholarship applications in deadline order.
- **Get involved in extracurricular activities and community service.** This is a critical component on most scholarship applications – and is the only criteria on some.
- **Earn the best possible grades and entrance exam scores.** These factors are especially important for college-based scholarships.
- **Determine if you will qualify for need-based scholarships** by completing the [College Funding Estimator](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).
- **Talk to colleges** about specific scholarships they offer.

Scholarship warning...

As a junior or senior, you'll receive offers for scholarship and financial aid services. If they charge a fee, investigate them thoroughly. EducationQuest will help you complete financial aid forms for free and will guide you to free [scholarship search resources](#). For more information, talk to your guidance counselor or call EducationQuest at 800-666-3721.

April "To Do" List

Seniors

- ___ Continue applying for scholarships.
- ___ Start purchasing dorm essentials now to avoid sticker shock in August.
- ___ Start looking for a summer job.

Juniors

- ___ Register by May 5 for the June 5 SAT.
- ___ Register by May 7 for the June 12 ACT.
- ___ Schedule campus visits while colleges are still in session.
- ___ Start looking for scholarships.

FOR THE LATEST IN
SCHOLARSHIP NEWS,
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
www.elgineagles.org.



FFA

NEWS

FFA Members celebrated FFA week by driving their tractors to school. They served ice cream cones to students at Pope John, St. Boniface, and Elgin Public Schools.

Elementary students participated in a "THANK A FARMER" Contest posters. Local winners were awarded and all posters were mailed off to the Nebraska State Department of Agriculture to compete statewide.

Members will attend the State Convention at UNL April 7-10th. Students will participate in the Agronomy, Natural Resources, Marketing, and Ag Communication contests.



FRESHMAN BOAT BUILDERS



What floats *your* boat? We found out that in this year's physical science class, that would mainly be bottles, cardboard, Styrofoam, and plates!

The freshmen took part in the annual class "Boat Float" challenge. They were to use the ideas of buoyancy to create a boat that held at least 500 g without taking on water.

There were many creative ideas, but all attempted to display the factors needed for a buoyant boat, such as weight dispersal and the ideal surface area to volume ratio.

Blake Anderson not only won this year's contest, but shattered the "Boat Float" record. His boat held a whopping 5400 g, crushing the old record held by Kevin Schindler (3200 g). Second place was Juliana Dunn (3100 g), and third went to Angela Richart (2300 g).

Great job to all those with creative boat designs!



Blake Anderson's winning design.



Other students look on as the boat builder adds weights during the contest.

Speech Team Lacks Experience, but Not Success!



Brieann Grosserode, Justin Kallhoff, Michelle Bauer, A.J. Braband, and Sebastian Janssen perform their Oral Interpretation of Drama.

The speech team started off the season as a fairly inexperienced group of newcomers and ended as seasoned veterans. In spite of returning no letter winners from the previous year, they finished the season with nine. They also received a number of medals, numerous excellent and superior ratings, and qualified two events for the state speech meet. In addition, they had just a little bit of fun along the way.

The team began competition in early February with the Cedar Rapids Invite. At this competitive twenty-plus team event, members gained valuable experience. The group continued competition at Lindsay Holy Family, where events grew even closer to making finals.

Finally, at the end of February, the team earned its first medals at the Pope John Invite. Jennifer Rhoads received a 6th place medal in poetry, and the OID team of Justin Kallhoff, Brieann Grosserode, Michelle Bauer, A.J. Braband, and Sebastian Janssen finished 3rd. The team placed 6th overall.

Their success continued at the NVC speech meet at North Central on March 1. The OID team was crowned conference runners up, and other individuals earned both superior and excellent ratings against some tough competition.

The D2-3 district speech meet at Wheeler Central on March 10 resulted in even more success. The OID team again received runners up medals and qualified for state. Jennifer Rhoads earned a third place medal in poetry, also qualifying for state. Brieann Grosserode won a fourth place medal in humorous prose, and Jessica Heithoff received a fourth place medal in serious prose. Both missed qualifying for state by only one place. The Duet Acting team of Christi Getzfred and Cortny Meis finished with 5th place medals. The team placed fourth overall.

At the state competition in Kearney, team members came up short of making finals, but gave terrific performances. Many members did find some success in some of the evening's extra-curricular activities. Christi Getzfred, Michelle Bauer, and Jessica Heithoff were members of the team who were crowned champions of the Mad Easter Egg Scramble. First place in the Coolest Pajama Pants contest went to A.J. Braband. Justin Kallhoff and Sebastian Janssen earned 2nd and 3rd places respectively. Brieann Grosserode and Michelle Bauer tied for 4th place.

Co-coaches Stacy Shumake –Henn and Jessie Reestman were very impressed with the team's performance this season.

"We really commend these kids for trying something new and excelling in an area most had never given much consideration to. These kids showed great commitment and leadership. You really have to commend individuals who work harder and don't get discouraged when things don't come easily for them right away. Though the subjectivity of speech can be frustrating, they were all troopers! What a fun bunch of kids to coach!"

Members of this year's speech team include the following: Justin Kallhoff, Brieann Grosserode, Michelle Bauer, Breanna Bode, Christi Getzfred, Cortny Meis, Jennifer Rhoads, A.J. Braband, Sebastian Janssen, Jessica Heithoff, and Ashley Bode.



ALUMNI GOLFING 4-Person Scramble

June 27th
Antelope Country Club
Neligh, NE

Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Shotgun tee-off: 9:00 a.m.
Cost is \$140 per team

Must have 1 alumni or current/former school employee on your team.

Cash payback, flag prizes, and a raffle!

To enter contact **Randy Eisenhauer at 843-5994** or

E-mail eisenhauer@gpcom.net

Must register by **June 23rd.**

Come join the fun with fellow EHS alumni!

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org



There are a number of factors involved in a quality education. However, one key factor with which the school needs and desires parental help and involvement is parents closely monitoring their child's school attendance. I know the school greatly appreciates parental cooperation in dealing with this important issue. According to Nebraska School Law §79-201, "... every person ... who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is of mandatory attendance age ... shall cause such child to enroll in ... and attend regularly ... each day that such school is open and in session, except when excused by school authorities." This is a lengthy passage where I shared some of the main points. Besides regular attendance being the law, when a student is absent he/she also misses out on the instruction, materials and discussion that took place in the classroom on that day. The assignment can be made up but the other learning interactions and opportunities cannot be duplicated. Regular school attendance is essential!

Winter sporting activities have come to an end. Hopefully winter has too. I observed many positives in this initial season for the Wolfpack. It was great to see the support, cooperation and enthusiasm exhibited by students, staff, parents and patrons. Spring activities are about to begin. Good luck to all participants and coaches. It is also great to see student participation in the fine arts. The speech season recently ended. The music department has been involved successfully in a number of activities throughout the year. They will have district music contests coming up near the end of April. The art students have been working all year and have also done well at contests. The student's involvement, skills, work and dedication are valuable resources and experiences for future endeavors.

Kindergarten Round-up will be coming up in May. All pupils entering kindergarten must have reached their fifth birthday on or before the 15th of October. A birth certificate (official copy from the State) is required for entrance in kindergarten along with immunization records, a physical and an eye exam. Be watching for more details on the date and time.

Help!!! We will be in need of a number of volunteers this summer. We have received federal funding to add to our playground equipment. With this funding we will be redoing the preschool playground and also adding on to the elementary playground equipment. We will need a number of volunteers for each site as our equipment provider plans on constructing both sets of equipment at the same time. We have not yet set the dates. I am guessing it will be a Friday and Saturday possibly in June. Please let us know if you would like to be involved.



Don't Throw Away That Empty Printer Cartridge! Bring it to school!

Empty inkjet cartridges can be recycled and remanufactured. Our school will receive \$2.00 for each cartridge turned in. Bring in your empty cartridges (use a Ziploc bag to avoid ink spills) to the office recycle bin.

Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.

*Malcolm Forbes
American Businessman*



ALUMNI ALERT!

Check out the alumni page on the school website! We are collecting information about EPS alumni and entering it on a database. Current contact information and a little news about what you have been doing since graduation can be submitted for other alumni to view.

We hope to help alumni stay in touch with other classmates that they may have lost track of. Submit your information in time for the Alumni Banquet!

Don't have the Internet? You can still submit your information to us. Get one of your children or grandchildren to print off a form for you to mail in or have them submit your information online for you. It's a great way to keep in touch with classmates.

**Check our website for the most current news and calendar:
www.elgineagles.org**



Signs of Spring

With everything going on, it was hard to decide what to write. Then I thought parents would probably appreciate an update about these busy times around campus...

Eagle Country:

- Speech had a very successful season. After numerous impressive performances at District speech, our IOD Team (Oral Interpretation of Drama) qualified for the State meet. Jennifer R. qualified and received a Superior rating in Oral Interpretation of Poetry at State.
- Art students began traveling to Art Shows last week. Mrs. Heithoff was excited about the number of ribbons received, including two Purple ribbons significant of "Best in Show," from their first show. The ESU 8 Art Show will take place April 26th to April 28th in Neligh.
- The Music season is coming to an end. We had one student qualify for Class D All-State Band. The NVC East Instrumental Music contest was held and Elgin students performed admirably as both an individual band and as part of the mass NVC East band. The elementary Solo Contest also took place last weekend.
- Science Fair was a success as the gym was packed with students explaining projects and showcasing their findings. I have been impressed by the amount of interest and support the community has shown throughout the year, and this was no exception.
- Senior Sneak took place last week. As we moved through towns and around the ski resort, I received a number of compliments from store workers/owners as well as random people about our group: respectful, well mannered, thankful, and fun. Seeing the unity of the class gave me an appreciation for the experiences they have had in Elgin Public Schools and an excitement for what they will accomplish in the future.
- NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) Reading assessments will take place in April. Grades 3-8 and 11 will be assessed using the new assessments developed by NDE. The reading assessment will be an official test this year. The NeSA Math will trial this year, no results will be made public, and be official next year.
- FFA and FCCLA will be attending their State conventions in early April. FFA will attend their convention from Wednesday, April 7th to Friday, April 9th. FCCLA will attend their convention from Monday, April 12th to Tuesday, April 13th.
- Quiz Bowl season is here as well. Scheduled quiz bowl competitions are: ESU 8 HS April 7, Pope John HS April 19th, and ESU 8 JH March 31.
- The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be here Tuesday, April 13th.

Wolfpack Athletics:

Winter sports concluded with an Athletic Banquet Monday night. The wrestler's qualified 6 for the State meet and earned one 4th place medal. The girl's basketball team finished with a 19-4 record as the district runner-up. The boy's basketball team finished with an 8-12 record.

Spring sports have been battling the weather, yet still practicing. It is energizing to see the students outside practicing and working hard. There are 16 students out for golf, 33 students out for Track, and 51 students out for Junior High Track. Golf begins their season April 6th, Track begins their season March 30th, and Junior High Track begins their season April 8th. We will enter two teams in each Junior High Track meet due to the number of students participating. The full schedules are posted online.

Football uniforms are being ordered. They will be a black jersey with black pant when home and a white jersey with black pant when on the road. There is a red insert that runs down the side of the jerseys and pant. Helmets will be white with a black face mask. Volleyball uniforms are being discussed as well.

Please check the school calendar for updated events and times; it will once again be a busy Spring!

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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