



DATES TO REMEMBER



April 2
 Jr./Sr. Prom



April 12
 Kindergarten
 Round-up 7:00 p.m.



April 13
 School Board Mtg.
 7:30 p.m.
 in ITV Room



April 20
 Bloodmobile in
 EPS Gym



April 21
 Early Dismissal
 1:00 p.m.



April 22 & 25
 NO SCHOOL

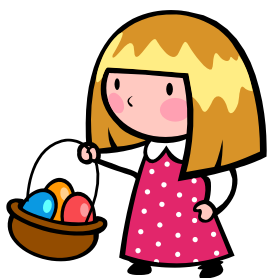
NIOBRARA VALLEY CONFERENCE BAND CLINIC



Elgin Public Schools in Elgin hosted the Niobrara Valley Conference Band Clinic on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. The guest clinician was Mr. Brad Weber. Mr. Weber is the director of instrumental music at Wayne Community Schools in Wayne, Nebraska.

Schools participating in the clinic were Clearwater, Elgin, Ewing, Niobrara, Orchard, and Verdigre. The clinic began with a 12:15 rehearsal session and continued throughout the afternoon. Mr. Weber and the directors were pleasantly surprised at how good the band sounded after the first run through of music. We knew that this was going to be a concert to remember. The afternoon was spent fine tuning the pieces as all the students came well prepared. Mr. Weber commented that he has done many honor bands and this was the first that he NEVER had to ask them to be quiet. He was very impressed with their behavior and maturity.

There was an evening concert open to the public at the Elgin Public School Gym. We had a nice audience for the event. The concert began with the Elgin band performing 'Overbrook'. Next was Verdigre's band with 'Winning Tradition' a nice march. Clearwater performed a ballad 'Shenandoah'. The individual performances ended with 'Heartstrings' by the Orchard Wind Ensemble. The mass band performed 5 pieces together beginning with 'Conquest' (a king tries to regain his castle after a big siege) written by a Nebraska composer Nolan Schmidt (first teaching position was at Orchard). Next was 'A Sailor's Odessey' - a song using the melody of 'What Shall We Do With A Drunken Sailor'. A song everyone recognizes by the Beatles was a fun piece to play - 'Eleanor Rigby'. The fourth song was written for a Nebraska landmark - 'Niobrara River Sketches' a medley that included Tubing, Sunset and a Hoedown. The concert concluded with a Karl King march entitled 'Our Heritage March'. The band did such an outstanding performance that they received a standing ovation. It was a wonderful night of music!





ART NEWS

April will be a busy month for the Art department. April 6th we head to Springview for the Keya Paha

Invitational Art show. This a 7-12 show and is open to the public if you're in the area that day.

The K-8 students will compete at the ESU#8 Invitational Art show in Neligh. This show will also be open to the public from April 15th-20th at the Neligh Park Pavillion. This is a limited show and students will be notified if their work has been entered.

The 7-12 students will make to the journey to Niobrara to complete in their third show of the year, the Niobrara Valley Conference Art show on April 29th.

More details will be posted on the school website www.elgineagles.org under "Activities-Art" as times for the shows approach. Also check the webpage for ribbon results from the shows.

Check the webpage for results from our trip to the Wakefield for their BIG SHOW on March 23rd.

Mrs. Heithoff

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

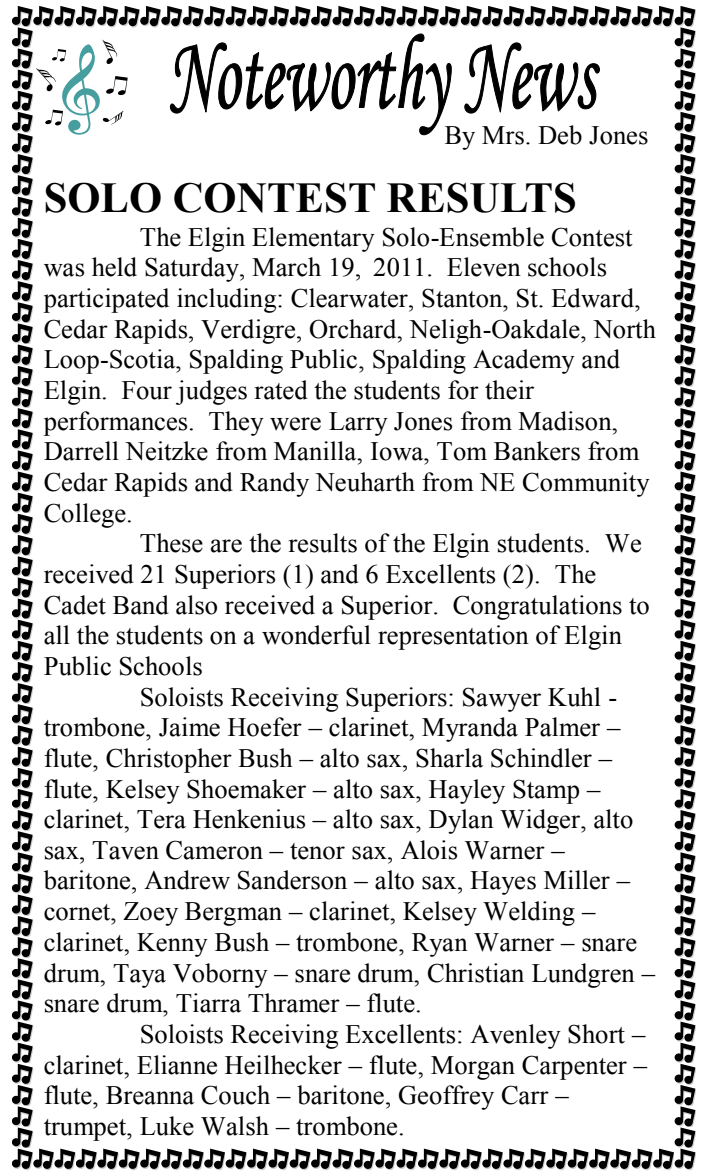
is now accepting enrollments for the 2011-2012 school year.

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

SOLO CONTEST RESULTS

The Elgin Elementary Solo-Ensemble Contest was held Saturday, March 19, 2011. Eleven schools participated including: Clearwater, Stanton, St. Edward, Cedar Rapids, Verdigre, Orchard, Neligh-Oakdale, North Loop-Scotia, Spalding Public, Spalding Academy and Elgin. Four judges rated the students for their performances. They were Larry Jones from Madison, Darrell Neitzke from Manilla, Iowa, Tom Bankers from Cedar Rapids and Randy Neuharth from NE Community College.

These are the results of the Elgin students. We received 21 Superiors (1) and 6 Excellents (2). The Cadet Band also received a Superior. Congratulations to all the students on a wonderful representation of Elgin Public Schools

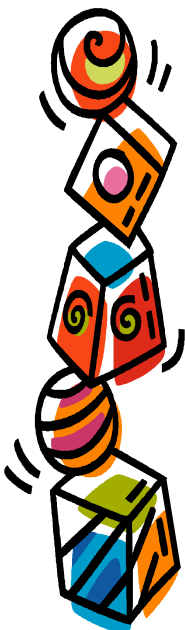
Soloists Receiving Superiors: Sawyer Kuhl - trombone, Jaime Hofer - clarinet, Myranda Palmer - flute, Christopher Bush - alto sax, Sharla Schindler - flute, Kelsey Shoemaker - alto sax, Hayley Stamp - clarinet, Tera Henkenius - alto sax, Dylan Widger, alto sax, Taven Cameron - tenor sax, Alois Warner - baritone, Andrew Sanderson - alto sax, Hayes Miller - cornet, Zoey Bergman - clarinet, Kelsey Welding - clarinet, Kenny Bush - trombone, Ryan Warner - snare drum, Taya Voborny - snare drum, Christian Lundgren - snare drum, Tiarra Thramer - flute.

Soloists Receiving Excellents: Avenley Short - clarinet, Elianne Heilhecker - flute, Morgan Carpenter - flute, Breanna Couch - baritone, Geoffrey Carr - trumpet, Luke Walsh - trombone.

2011 YEARBOOK

Don't forget to order your 2011 Yearbook. They are available for \$30 each. Make checks payable to Elgin Public Schools.

Check the website for a form. "Activities-Yearbook"





The Elgin Public/Pope John track team will begin the season on March 29, 2011 at the Cedar Rapids Invite held at Genoa. We have a large number of athletes competing this season which makes it exciting. The weather has allowed us to get outside and practice a little more than usually but we all know that the weather can be deceiving. With a track meet just a week away we are planning on spending some time getting ready for our field events and continue to get in peak physical condition. Coaches this year are Amy Selting, Mark Dwyer, Head Coach Carlie Wells.

JR. HIGH COMPETES



Kyle Heithoff

On Monday, March 21st, 2011, the Pope John National Honor Society sponsored the Pope John Junior High Academic Contest. Students in 7th and 8th grade were nominated by their teachers to compete in the contest. Students could participate in up to two events except those in trivia bowl or spelling.

Contestants representing Elgin Public School for the competition were Tera Henkenius (8th) Language Arts; Tyler Smith (8th) Pre-Algebra; Kyle Heithoff (8th) History & Science; Alois Warner (7th) Spelling; and Sawyer Kuhl (7th) Vocabulary & Reading

Comprehension. The three student member team for the

Trivia Bowl were Hayden Niewohner (7th), Tanner Welding (8th) and Christopher Bush (8th).

CONGRATULATIONS goes to Kyle Heithoff, he placed 2nd in the Science Competition. Good job to all contestants and well done Kyle!



Chicken Pox Vaccine

Next school year every student will need to have TWO vaccinations for the chicken pox (varicella) or will need to show documentation from a parent/guardian that your child has had this disease (if your child has previously had the chicken pox disease and you have already signed the documentation form, you will not need to sign it again.).

You are being given this early notice so that you may have ample time to meet the requirements of this new law.

Goldenrod Hills Immunization Clinic is a resource available to families whose children need the second chicken pox (varicella) immunization. You can schedule an appointment for one of their monthly clinics by calling 402-529-3513 or 1-800-445-2505. They hold clinics in Neligh and Norfolk as well as other area towns. You may also schedule an appointment with your local physician for the necessary vaccination. Please return documentation to the school nurse as soon as your child has received their second vaccination.

Seniors Sneak To South Dakota



Seniors pose at Mt. Rushmore.

Last week, the seniors had the privilege and opportunity to escape the daily grind and head to South Dakota for some sightseeing and to hit the slopes. The journey started Thursday morning with 12 seniors, two class sponsors, and Mr. Feeney. Along the way, we spotted antelope and bison, and were awed by the Black Hills. Many seniors experienced Mt. Rushmore for the first time as we toured the visitor's center and walked the beautiful grounds. Early the next morning, all were up to hit the slopes or do some sightseeing and shopping. Many took ski or snowboard lessons, which made their first experience on the slopes an enjoyable one. Later that evening we visited Deadwood to take some old-fashioned photographs which had everyone laughing. Saturday consisted of more of the same and some much needed down time. All had a wonderful time and the memories will last a life time. Thank you to the parents and administration for their support, and a special thank you to the seniors for their hard work over the past four years. You will be missed.

Your sponsors, Miss J and Ms. Rethmeier

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.

Kindergarten Round-up

April 12th

Kindergarten round-up will be held April 12th 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 April 12, 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.

BOAT FLOAT

This month we learned that the freshmen class is crammed with future engineers—at least when it comes to boat building! For the annual Physical Science "Boat Float" contest, students were challenged to build a boat that would hold the most weight. They could use any products, except a premade boat. After learning the necessary information regarding buoyant force, fluid pressure, and density, students had the opportunity to put this knowledge to use in their boat-building assignment. They found that air pockets, high sides, sturdy design, and the ability to evenly distribute weight were the critical elements to designing a successful boat. Their creativity was evident by the wide variety of materials and designs used. This year's winner was Stephanie Bode whose design shattered the old Boat Float records with a whopping 9900 g! The second place boat was built by Abbi Couch (4250 g) and third place was built by Hunter Thramer (3500 g). The top three places were all close to the winners from recent years past (Kevin Schindler 3200 g, Blake Anderson 5400 g). More pictures can be seen at www.elgineagles.org!



Champion boat floaters were: (l. to r.) 3rd place-Hunter Thramer, 2nd place - Abbi Couch, and 1st place - Stephanie Bode.



Briann Grosserode

Full name: Briann Linda Grosserode
Parents: Linda Grosserode and the late Randy Grosserode
Brothers: Alex
Pets: Show cows & chickens, and an occasional cat
Favorite school subject: History
Favorite teacher: Mr. Jones
Activities: band, choir, ffa, volleyball, speech, one-act, FCCLA dance
Greatest honor during school: being on the National Honor Society
Favorite activity: Volleyball because I like the game and being able to hit the ball
Most educational experience: going to Washington D.C. to see all the monuments
Most inspirational person: My mom because she raised me and my brother as a single parent after my dad died
Favorite color: green
Favorite thing to do in spare time: being with friends and be outside
Pet peeve: people who drive under the speed limit
Something most people don't know about me: that I have been in 7 casts/braces
Favorite movie: The Hangover
Dream car: Ford F-350
Favorite food: steak
Favorite school lunch: sloppy Joes
Favorite pop: Dr. Pepper
Favorite TV show: Pretty Little Liars or Price is Right
Favorite type of music: Country or Rock
Future plans after graduation: Attend UNL with a major in animal science and plan to attend vet school

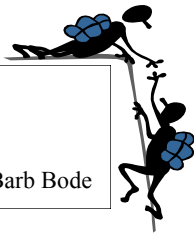
Full name: Anthony Alan Hemenway
Parents: Alan and Deb Hemenway
Brothers: Ryan
Sisters: Melisa & Amanda
Pets: Scrappy
Favorite school subject: history
Favorite teacher: Mr. Jones
Activities: band, choir, art, annual, wrestling
Greatest honor during school: National Honor Society
Favorite activity: wrestling
Favorite color: blue
Favorite thing to do in spare time: play computer games
Pet peeve: serious people
If you could go back in time where would you go:
present day
Favorite movie: "Gone is Sixty Seconds"
Dream car: '69 Shelby Mustang
Favorite food: steak
Favorite school lunch: Chicken fried steak
Favorite pop: Mountain Dew Voltage
Favorite TV show: "The Mentalist"
Favorite type of music: pop
Future plans after graduation: go to college



Anthony Hemenway

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, 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. Track your involvement with the [Activities Resume](#) at EducationQuest.org.
- **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. You'll also want to check out tuition assistance programs like the University of Nebraska's [Collegebound program](#), and the [Advantage Program](#) offered by the Nebraska State College System. These programs will cover the cost of your tuition if you meet certain income and academic criteria.

-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 April 8 for the May 7 SAT.
- ___ Register by May 6 for the June 11 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.

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org



Spring officially arrived on Sunday, March 20th. However looking at our white ground this morning and the forecast for next week, that doesn't mean we are finished with snow. It seems as if we accumulated our fair share of snow these past few months. I am hopeful that this is possibly the snow's last hurrah for this school year. Due to the number of days we did not have school we did make up one day in early March. I am also sure the golf and track teams are looking forward to warmer weather as spring activities have begun.

Kindergarten Round-up is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 PM. Again this year any child who turns 5 on or before October 15, 2011 is eligible to attend kindergarten. Looking ahead, the implementation of LB 1006 begins with the 2012 – 13 school year. A child will then be eligible to attend kindergarten if they turn 5 on or before July 31 of the calendar year in which the school year for which the child is seeking admission begins. This will be a change from the long standing benchmark on kindergarten entrance. Again, this is the last year with the October 15 cut-off date.



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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Residents of District 18, Elgin, are notified that School District 18, Elgin, NE participates in all required Special Education Services for all resident students, ages 0-21. If you know of any student not currently being serviced by an appropriate educational program or have questions concerning the Special Education Program, contact the Superintendent's office at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.



First & Fourth graders celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday in March with guest readers, fun activities, and of course, a breakfast of green eggs and ham!.

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



NeSA Assessments

The NeSA assessments will take place at the start of April for all students in grade 3rd-8th and 11th. Each student will take two reading and two math assessments that we will receive scores. Students will also take two science assessments that we will not receive scores. The science assessments are being administered merely to test the questions for next year.

Nebraska Department of Education developed these assessments as a tool to compare schools and school districts. However, we do use the information that we gather from the assessments for more than a comparison tool at Elgin Public Schools. The scores are a part of our school improvement plan.

It is my goal and the goal of the staff to prepare the students as best we can for these assessments. As a staff, we want to make sure students are prepared and comfortable with the assessments so their focus is on answering the questions. Here are a few of the things the teachers have been doing to ensure a positive test taking experience:

- taking tutorials about the system
- taking practice assessments
- reviewing content and skills
- planning to assess in the mid-morning
- providing a healthy snack
- talking about the assessments

As parents, there are a few things you can do that will help your student succeed:

- sleep for 8 hours the night before
- eat a protein as part of breakfast
- talk to them about the assessments
- encourage students to spend as much time as they need
- stay positive about the assessments
- make sure your student is in attendance on assessment dates!

NeSA assessment dates are:

- 3rd grade, 4th grade, 5th grade and 6th grades – April 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th
- 7th grade and 8th grade – April 12th, 13th, 19th and 20th
- 11th grade - April 12th, 13th, 19th and 21st

We will also complete our MAP assessments in early May. More information will be sent home about MAP following the NeSA assessments.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the assessments. I am looking forward to another successful assessment season!

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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