



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
P.O. Box 399
101 N. 4th St.
Elgin, NE 68636-0399

Volume XXVI, Issue 5

December, 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER



Dec. 9
School Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m. in ITV
Room



Dec. 13
Christmas Concert
7:00 p.m.



Dec. 22
Early Dismissal
1:00 p.m.

End of 1st
Semester



Dec. 23 - Jan. 3
NO SCHOOL
HOLIDAY BREAK



Jan. 4
SCHOOL
RESUMES



EPS HOSTS NVC ONE-ACT COMPETITION



EPS One-Act Cast members are: (seated front l. to r.) Madison Voborny, Michael Braband, Bailey Carpenter, Juliana Dunn, A.J. Braband, Director Sara Walsh, Abbi Couch, Christi Getzfred, Ashlyn De-Wald, Hunter Thramer (standing l. to r.) Ivy Prater, Hannah Kerkman, Briann Grosserode, Sebastian Janssen, Alex Grosserode, Ryan Meis, Brett Kinney, and Harley Janssen.

On November 16th, Elgin Public School hosted the NVC East One-Act competition. The team performed the play "How to Succeed in High School Without Really Trying" by Jonathan Rand. As always, there was tough competition conference competition, but the Elgin team walked away with 3rd place (Ewing—1st, Pope John—2nd).

The Elgin team was awarded four individual acting honors; those receiving NVC awards include seniors AJ Braband and Sebastian Janssen, and freshmen Brett Kinney and Hannah Kerkman. The team will host a community performance on November 29th and travel to Cedar Rapids for District competition on November 30th.

*For the most current news and calendar,
go to www.elgineagles.org.*

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR ON WEBSITE

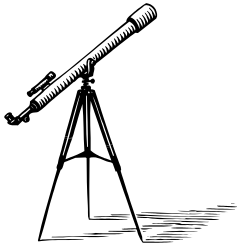


Do you want to know what time the concert starts or if the ballgames have been postponed?

Check out the Activities Calendar on our website, www.elgineagles.org. This easy-to-use tool:

- provides up-to-date school activities and events
- allows you to view and print a daily, weekly or monthly list of calendar events
- includes a search option to find a specific event
- sends you e-mail reminders for events you select

Students Study the Stars



The Earth Science students recently wrapped up their outcome involving the solar system. They did many in-class activities exploring the stars, planets, and other parts of the universe.

Their studies were wrapped up by a nighttime stargazing session held on the football field. Although it had to be rescheduled once due to cloud cover, the second night chosen held good weather for the class and allowed them to see the moon in a near full state. Students were able to observe the moon through two available telescopes. They were able to catch a view of the moon not seen with the naked eye. They could more clearly see the craters of the moon as well as the highlands (mountains that look like bright specs), maria (plains), and rilles (valleys that look like darker areas).

Though the lesson is over, many students have continued to observe the nighttime constellations!

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."

Margaret Fuller

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.

Noteworthy News

By Mrs. Deb Jones

Whether we are ready for it or not, the holiday season is upon us! The students are preparing for the Christmas concert, the cast for the musical is picked, costumes are getting put together and we'll soon be ready to perform for you.

The Christmas concert is Monday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the gym. It would be wonderful to have a big audience – there is surely some Christmas cheer to bring for all of you to enjoy! The little children (Pre-school through 2nd grade) will be singing some familiar carols and some new songs with a slight twist. The concert band and high school choir will perform traditional Christmas songs along with something new and bouncy for all to hear.

Grades three – six will be performing the musical "Home For The Holidays". The Yuletide family and their cat Festive are going home to grandma's house for the holidays. But... their flight was cancelled, no train service and they need a Christmas tree fast! What will they do? Come find out what happens. We hope to see all of you there. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

DELI INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

Deli orders are here and should be delivered to all of our customers. If you have NOT received your items, please contact Mrs. Jones (843-2455) and she will see that it gets to your house. To all those who ordered product from us – THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!

"The road to knowledge begins with the turn of the page."

Anonymous



SIGN-UP FOR NEWS UPDATE

You won't want to be left out in the cold! When the weather changes our plans, we want to make sure you are the first to know.

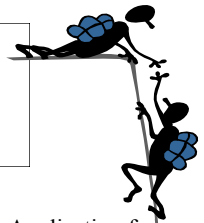
Sign up for News Update on our website, www.elgineagles.org. On the left side of the front page of our website, click on "Sign up for the News Update". Put in your e-mail address and you will be sent an e-mail. **You must reply to that e-mail in order to be placed on our e-mail list.** Whenever there are postponements or cancellations, an e-mail will be sent with the information.

News Update will also be used to draw attention to new items on our webpage so periodically you will receive an e-mail with headline news in it. (We promise not to flood your e-mail inbox and we won't give out your e-mail address to anyone!)

Sign up today and be sure to tell your friends!

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Attend a Financial Aid Program to learn how to pay for college

EducationQuest is conducting statewide financial aid programs that explain the types of financial aid, how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), how colleges award financial aid, and the student loan process. The programs are free and open to the public. To find the program nearest you, visit EducationQuest.org/fap.asp.

Check out our financial aid videos and podcasts!

Another way to learn about paying for college is by viewing the [Guide to College Funding video](#) at EducationQuest.org. The video features a family going through the financial aid process. To learn about completing the FAFSA, view [The FAFSA Made Easy](#).

If you would rather “hear” information about financial aid, listen to these two podcasts:

[The FAFSA...What is it, anyway?](#)

[Preparing for the FAFSA](#)

How to estimate your FAFSA results

If you're a college-bound senior, you will soon submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Colleges will use your FAFSA results to determine how much they will award you in financial aid.

To estimate your FAFSA results now, use the [College Funding Estimator](#) at EducationQuest.org. The program will ask for 2010 income tax information. You may estimate your tax information to complete the Estimator but should use your completed 2010 tax returns when you submit the actual FAFSA. To meet your college's financial aid priority date, complete your taxes early.

Seniors...have you submitted your college applications?

If you haven't submitted your admission applications yet, it's time to get serious! Contact your top college choices to determine application deadlines and procedures. Ask if the admission application is also the application for college-based scholarships. If not, ask about the scholarship application process.

Winning the scholarship game

Follow these tips to increase your chances of earning scholarships:

- ***Don't pay for scholarship searches.** Free scholarship search sites are available on the Internet including [ScholarshipQuest](#) at EducationQuest.org which has over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. Free scholarship search resources are also available at EducationQuest locations in Kearney, Lincoln and Omaha.
- ***Visit your guidance counselor often** for information about local scholarships.
- ***Get organized.** Place scholarship applications in deadline order and prioritize each award. Local awards and college-specific applications deserve top priority because you're more likely to earn them.
- ***Continually update your activities, honors, community service or paid jobs** using the [Activities Resume](#) at EducationQuest.org.
- ***Earn the best possible ACT/SAT scores** by taking the exam in the spring of your junior year and again in the fall of your senior year.
- ***Use quality references** such as a teacher, coach or counselor. Encourage them to write specific examples of your leadership skills. Give them advance notice and a specific deadline.
- ***Tailor your essay to the scholarship.** Ask an English teacher to read your essay and offer advice on making a big impact. Your essay will need to stand out from other applications.
- ***Pay close attention to grammar, spelling and neatness.** Ask at least two people to proofread your entire application.

December “To Do” List

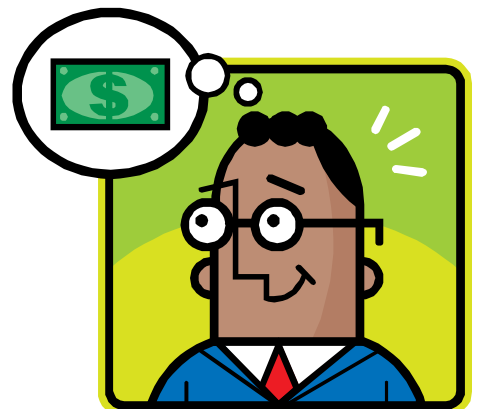
Complete these tasks during December to stay on the right college planning track.

Seniors:

- Submit college applications.
- Estimate FAFSA results using the [College Funding Estimator](#) at EducationQuest.org.
- Attend the [Financial Aid Program](#) in your area.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.

Juniors

- Attend the [Financial Aid Program](#) in your area.
- Research college choices.
- Search for scholarships.
- Register by December 23 for the January 22 SAT.
- Register by January 7 for the February 12 ACT.





Jessica Heithoff

Full name: Jessica Marie Heithoff
Parents: Pam and Calvin Heithoff
Brothers: Andrew
Favorite school subject: anatomy
Activities: volleyball, basketball, track, dance, FFA, FCCLA, speech, choir, student council, art/yearbook
Greatest honor during school: induction into the National Honor Society
Favorite activity: sports, because I love them!
Most educational experience: going to Breakfast for Champions
Most inspirational person: my great-grandma Bessie
Favorite color: orange
Favorite thing to do in spare time: be with family and friends
Pet peeve: when phones ring in public places
If you could go back in time where would you go: cowboy days
Something most people don't know about me: I'm a farm girl. I can drive tractors.
Favorite movie: any Disney movie
Favorite food: chicken
Favorite school lunch: chicken fajitas or sloppy Joes
Favorite pop: Dr. Pepper
Favorite TV show: "Teen Mom"
Favorite type of music: country
Future plans after graduation: go to college and major in radiology

Full name: Nathan Dale Anderson
Parents: Bruce and Joanne Anderson
Brothers: Brandon & Blake
Sisters: Alisha
Pets: dog - Bowser
Favorite school subject: math
Favorite teacher: Mr. Jones
Activities: wrestling, football, FFA, band
Greatest honor during school: qualifying for State Wrestling
Favorite activity: wrestling because of the hard work and success that follows
Most educational experience: The assembly about the girl who lost an arm because of drunk driving.
Most inspirational person: dad
Favorite color: green
Favorite thing to do in spare time: video games
Pet peeve: young girls under 10 years old with cell phones
If you could go back in time where would you go: 1990's so I can see the Huskers when they were good.
Something most people don't know about me: I love basketball
Favorite movie: "Yes Man"
Dream car: the car that goes on water
Favorite food: prime rib
Favorite school lunch: chicken fajitas
Favorite pop: Dr. Pepper
Favorite TV show: "Sports Nation"
Favorite type of music: rock
Future plans after graduation: attend UNL and major in an agricultural field



Nathan Anderson

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org

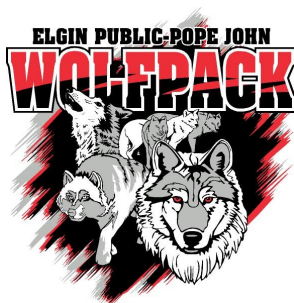


After a beautiful fall it looks as if winter has finally arrived. With this comes weather which may necessitate a change in the regular school day. This could involve a late start, early dismissal or even cancelling school altogether. Along with broadcasting this information on radio and television we also contact families using the school's AlertNow system. This technology allows the school to contact patrons automatically with a phone call and even an e-mail. Should you wish to receive this information please contact the school. Parents, remember the final decision on whether to send your child to school in a weather related situation is yours.

The busy winter sports season is also upon us. This will give you an opportunity to watch the Elgin Wolfpack participating on the hardwood and on the mat. I would like to remind everyone attending these events to practice good sportsmanship. We expect our students to represent Elgin in a positive manner. It is the responsibility of our spectators to do the same in representing our students, schools and community. Go Wolfpack!!!

I would like to close by wishing everyone a Joyous Holiday Season.

Wolfpack Volleyball Wrap-up



The "First" Wolfpack Volleyball season came to an end on Monday, November 1st. We ended the season with 13 wins and 16 losses. When the season first started nobody was sure how it would go, but as a Coach I couldn't be prouder of how the team gelled and worked together. We started the season off really strong. Unfortunately though we had to play some really tough competition; but we knew in the long run it would make us a better team. And it did pay off; as we went into Conference week we were playing at the top of our game and as a team we were on fire. Just like life though, a mishap can happen and things change. I couldn't be prouder of these girls, they rode the Roller Coaster as a team this year, as a team we had our Highs and we had our Lows, but as our motto says: "Teamwork makes the Dreamwork."

End of the season stats are listed below. Post Season Honors will be announced at our Wrap-up on Tuesday, November 30th.

	Serves	Aces	Sets	Assists	Ace Blocks	Attacks	Kills	Digs
Jessica Heithoff	209	9	709	220	6	90	37	189
Casey Pelster	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
Michelle Bauer	231	21	27	6	94	356	254	250
Lauren Selting	254	13	764	271	11	95	36	187
Stephanie Bode	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1
Brea Schrage	131	12	0	0	0	9	2	63
Kelsie Kuhlman	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Marin Heithoff	70	6	3	2	26	179	89	62
Ashley Bode	67	9	9	2	46	180	83	64
Chelsi Mescher	246	33	11	3	11	196	117	219
Briann Grosserode	15	4	1	2	3	33	11	15
Carey Eischeid	233	13	15	4	0	2	0	280

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rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Jimmy Feeney
jfeeney@esu8.org



It has been a beautiful Fall, but following our first late start due to weather, I think it is safe to say Winter is here. The noticeable bite in the air serves as a good reminder that avoiding sickness is a daily task. Building routine like wearing a jacket, washing your hands often, and covering your mouth when you cough are important. But, it is sometimes hard to know when a student is too sick and needs to stay home from school.

Located on our webpage under the Health tab at the top, you will find an article by Gwen Kinney, our School Nurse, titled *Guidelines for Keeping Sick Children Home from School*. Also on our webpage under the Quick Links section is a link to the North Central District Health Department webpage. This is a great site to check for information or updates on current health related news items. Both of these resources can be used to answer sickness related questions you may have.

The stakes are high regarding absences. The bottom line is that we want students in our building. At a school level, we have a simple policy of seven absences. At seven absences, students have to appeal for credit. As a State, at 20 absences students are reported to the County Attorney, regardless of the reason for the absences. The State also requires that we report the reason for student absences on a monthly basis. To do so effectively, we need parents to contact the office for each absence. Keep the notes and phone calls coming!

On another note, Elgin was recently the host of Niobrara Valley Conference (NVC) East One-Act competition. The event went very well as seven schools were here to compete. I was happy to see community members coming in to enjoy the shows. We will also host the NVC Speech meet on February 28th and NVC East Instrument Music on March 22nd. Please check our webpage for other NVC events that will be taking place throughout the school year.

At the One-Act competition, Elgin performed very well. As a team, we captured third place! As individuals, AJ, Hannah, Sebastian, and Brett earned Outstanding Performance honors. District One-Act will be on November 30th at Cedar Rapids.

I also want to make you aware of a couple changes in the NVC that took place last year. There are 16 NVC schools, but co-op's have reduced the number of teams to 11. It was necessary to look at the East and West tournaments. It was decided to make one tournament for volleyball and basketball. This means that there will still be a host school, but parts of each tournament will be played at the highest seeded site for portions of the brackets. I do believe that this is a positive change to more evenly distribute the teams throughout the tournament brackets.



*Dec. 22 - Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
Happy Holidays!*



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