



DATES TO REMEMBER



October 6
 Fire Dept Safety
 House Demo for
 Grades Pk-6



October 12
 K-6 -- NO SCHOOL



October 16
 HOMECOMING
 PARADE 2:30 P.M.



October 20
 Picture Retakes



October 21
 Late Start 10:00 a.m.

Students Experience Hydroelectric Power in Action



Andrew Heithoff, Eric Vanis, Justin Reestman, Ryan Meis, and Nash Schindler pose in front of the spillway and Gavin's Point Dam.

Electricity and water are generally a bad mixture, unless you're using the movement of the water to turn a giant electromagnet which generates electricity. That's what Designing with Technology students learned about on their recent trip to the Gavin's Point Power Plant. The river has enough force to spin massive turbine blades (approximately 8 ft by 10 ft each) which turn the electromagnets and produce enough electrical energy to power the entire facility and for approximately 65,000 people annually. Students had the opportunity to feel the containers where the electromagnets spin and watch the shaft spin that's connected to the turbine blades. The tour was the highlight of our electricity studies which also included building a speaker using electromagnet concepts and experimenting with the effects of voltage, current, and resistance.

Hydroelectric power is just one mission of the dam. Others include flood damage control and managing the ecosystems both upstream and downstream in conjunction with other dams along the Missouri River. We also spent some time watching the many and varied fish that we don't see very often like the paddlefish and sturgeon. The tour was a great experience on a beautiful September day.

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

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.





"Note"able News

By Mrs. Deb Jones

NEBRASKA ALL STATE CHORUS: WILL AN ELGIN STUDENT BE THERE???

Each year over 3000 students audition live for a spot in the Nebraska All State Choir, Band and Orchestra. It is indeed an honor to be a member. It takes long hours of practice and preparation to successfully be selected. There are 6 pieces that each choir student must prepare for auditions. These are the selections that will be performed at the concert with the 450 singers chosen. Each audition takes 6 minutes - to the student and the teacher it seems a lot longer! This year, October 10th will be a big day for those who audition - will they have what it takes to be a member of the elite musical groups of Nebraska?

Elgin Public Schools has a student vying for a spot this year. This will be the first year that Devin Brown, a senior, will be auditioning for the choir. If he is accepted this year, Devin will continue the tradition of performing with the choir at the concert in the Lied Center. This is a great honor for any vocal student! Good luck to Devin on October 10th. We hope to see him on stage in Lincoln in November!!



PARADES

Everyone loves a parade! We usually can't wait to see the Elgin Marching Eagles coming down the street. This year is a bit different. Unfortunately, we don't have enough members to march in parade competitions. So this year, Elgin's band will not be participating in the Lions Club Parade in Norfolk OR the

Harvest Of Harmony Parade in Grand Island. We hope to be ready and marching again next year! But that doesn't mean you can't still go to the parades and cheer on the other bands from our area. They will appreciate a friendly clap and a way to go just like we did!! Have a great fall!

*A real leader faces the music
even when he doesn't like the tune.*



Thank you to all who supported EPS magazine sales this year. Your magazine purchases help fund many of our class activities. Thank you for your contributions!



The K-12 Art students have been busy the first half of the first quarter!

The students started off the year reviewing the color wheel, color mixing and color schemes. After they finished their color unit it was onto various projects.

The K-2nd grades have started clay trees, birds and turtles. The 3rd-6th grades are creating clay faces. The 8th grade students have been hard at work on paper mache masks and clay animals.

The high school students are working on individual projects from drawings to sculptures. Check the school web page to view photos of their work. Check "Academics-Art". Right now the 8th grade are the featured artists.

Mrs. Rita Heithoff

HOMECOMING 2009

**All Orange - All the Time - Going out
in 09**

October 12th - 16th

"Hit Music of the 80's, 90's, & Now"

Dress-up Days:

Monday: Class Color

Tuesday: The Good Old Days, 50's-80's

Wednesday: Clash Day

Thursday: Duo Day

Friday: Old School Orange & Black

Schedule:

October 3 - Class Workday at 9:00 a.m.

Rolls & Juice provided by Student Council

**October 13 - Volleyball game vs. Wheeler Central
7:00 p.m.**

All Orange - All the Time - Support the 9

October 14 - Coronation & Bonfire 8:00 p.m.
Begins in the Gym and proceeds to the Football Field

Coaches Talks, King/Queen pep talk, & class cheers

**October 15 - Volleyball game @ Newman Grove
7:00 p.m.**

All Orange - All the Time - Support the 9

October 16 - Parade & Pep Rally 2:30 p.m.
(Downtown Elgin)

Parade, poster judging, pep band, K-12 skits, class cheers, games

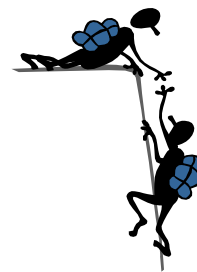
Football game vs. Cedar Rapids 7:00 p.m.

All Orange - All the Time - 9th Man

High School pizza party after the game.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



New tools will help you find the right fit for college

Check out the updated *College Profiles* at EducationQuest.org to research colleges in Nebraska and across the country that are the best fit for you.

By using *College Profiles*, you can search for schools based on location, size, school type, cost, major, activities and services for students with disabilities. Your search results page will list colleges that match your criteria and provide a link to more information about the school.

Video demonstrates college selection process – and shoe shopping!

In our newest EducationQuest video, “Find the Right Fit,” high school seniors Maya and Mike demonstrate how searching for the right college is like shopping for a good pair of shoes. Available at EducationQuest.org, YouTube and Facebook, this 10-minute video provides college selection guidance and tips.

Seniors. . . have you visited your top colleges?

If you haven't done so already, visit your top college choices *soon* as application deadlines will start hitting this fall. Follow these tips for a successful visit:

- ◆ **Contact the admissions office at least two weeks in advance** to schedule your visit. Make appointments with an admissions representative, financial aid counselor and a faculty member in the area of study that interests you.
- ◆ **Check out the college Web site before your visit.** Most college sites have a section for prospective students where you can learn about the school's admissions process, types of majors, student services and employment opportunities. You might even be able to schedule your visit online.
- ◆ **Visit while school is in session.** You won't get the true flavor during breaks or finals week.
- ◆ **Get a feel for the campus.** Hang out in the student union, find coffee shops with wireless Internet access, eat in a restaurant close to campus or attend athletic or cultural events.
- ◆ **Ask LOTS of questions.** See the EducationQuest *College Prep Handbook* or Web site for [good questions to ask](#).

Winning the scholarship game

Follow these tips to increase your chances of earning scholarships:

- ◆ **Don't pay for scholarship searches!** Use free search sites including ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org with over 2,000 state and local awards. Scholarship resources are also available at your local library and at the EducationQuest offices in Kearney, Lincoln and Omaha.
- ◆ **Visit your guidance counselor weekly** for information about local scholarships.
- ◆ **Get organized.** Place scholarship applications in deadline order and prioritize each award. Local and college-specific scholarships deserve top priority because you're more likely to earn them.
- ◆ **Continually update your activities, honors and volunteer or paid jobs** using the [Activities Resume](http://ActivitiesResume) at EducationQuest.org.
- ◆ **Earn the best possible ACT/SAT scores** by taking the exams 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.
- ◆ **Get an early start on essays.** Describe your interests, hopes for the future, and leadership abilities – but be sure to tailor your essay to the scholarship topic.
- ◆ **Pay close attention to grammar, spelling and neatness.** Ask at least two people to proofread your application.

Watch your mailbox ...

Seniors...your parents will soon receive a postcard from EducationQuest highlighting what you should do this fall to prepare for college. Review this information carefully with them to make sure you complete important tasks before the deadlines.

October “To Do” List

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

Juniors and Seniors:

- ___ Attend the College Fair or Educational Planning Program in your area.
- ___ Use EducationQuest's *College Profiles* to find schools that match your criteria.

Seniors:

- ___ Schedule campus visits.
- ___ Narrow your college choices and be aware of application deadlines and criteria.
- ___ Register by September 18 for the October 24 ACT.
- ___ Register by October 1 for the November 7 SAT.
- ___ Register by October 30 for the December 5 SAT.
- ___ Register by November 6 for the December 12 ACT.

Solar System Models



Allison Koenig displays her solar system model.

The Earth science students recently showed their creative sides when they made models of our solar system. The models were built to represent the comparative sizes of objects within our solar system. The students calculated in class that it would be impossible to create a usable model that used the same scale for size and distance. A model using the same scale would show Pluto with a diameter of one inch and it would be past Norfolk if the sun was in Elgin!

Students were to show the nine planets (including the dwarf planet Pluto), the asteroid belt, our moon, and other planetary features such as the rings of Saturn. Students used various objects to make these models such as balls, balloons, paper, cake, Rice Krispie bars, and Christmas bulbs! One project even had a light-up sun! The 8th grade students did a great job of creating these models and learned more about our solar system in the process.

See photos of all student projects at www.elgineagles.org

Among the few things more expensive than an education these days is the lack of it.

Yearbook Prep Begins

The Yearbook class has three new students this year: Michelle Bauer, Jamie Bode and Allen Miller. They have been busy choosing a theme (possibly "2010...A New Beginning" or "A Perfect 10"), deciding the ladder (page order), mailing out business ads, and learning Josten's online program for designing their pages.



They've also been focusing on taking photos and how to store and organize them. This is no easy task since we will take several thousand photos over the course of the year. Approximately 2000 pictures will end up in the yearbook! It's a new staff in 2010 and "A New Beginning" !

Mrs. Heithoff

Smile..... It's Contagious

4TH GRADE GUIDANCE



As part of their guidance class, the fourth graders did their first visit with elderly partners on Wednesday, September 23.

They visited Bessie Hawks and Doc Jillson. They learned that Mrs. Hawks likes to play bingo and has 28 great grandchildren. Doc Jillson has four daughters that he likes to share information about, and that he worked with Hayes's great-uncle Darryl. We look forward to many more visits and hope to add some friends to our list.

We have plans next Wednesday to help one of our former friends, Marjorie Beeson, celebrate a very special birthday.

WONDERFUL WORLD OF WATER

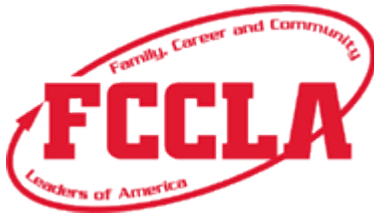
For 20 years, the Wonderful World of Water has been hosted by the local NRD's. This year six Elgin Public students attended the all-day event that was held at Gillman Park in the town of Pierce. Students attended various hands-on sessions regarding water, a precious natural resource. Presentations discussed the importance of the use of soil conservation practices and a description of the wildlife from around the area. In another session they were challenged to identify trees in the park's arboretum.

During the "wetlands" presentation, those present were also treated to a special treat of grilled arrow head tuber, cattails, and 'beast.' Though the presenter rarely tells the students what the 'beast' for the year is, in the past it has been beaver, opossum, and skunk.

Those in attendance were: Ryan Meis, Ben Wiegand, Michael Braband, Juliana Dunn, Ashlyn DeWald, and Angela Richart.



Juliana, Angela, and Ashlyn taste testing the "beast of the wetlands".



The chilly breeze that seems to have surrounded us has swept in a new season for FCCLA (Family Career Community Leaders of America) activities and its members. There are many new bright and shining faces this year that will be joining our organization.

To kick off the new school year a meeting was held September 1. We discussed various programs of work focusing on three areas; fundraising activities, community service, and our social/recreational activities.


To support the leadership conferences as well as other district, state and national functions that we attend as a chapter, it was decided to pursue two fundraising activities this year. During the month of October and early November members will be taking orders for poinsettias. A wide variety of sizes and colors will be offered. Also we will once again celebrate Valentines Day by selling candy grams as one of our FCCLA week activities Feb. 8-14.

Tuesday, September 15 during the first Parent-Teachers Conference, FCCLA sponsored baby sitting for the teachers and parents who attended and on Friday, September 18, FCCLA members volunteered their time by working at the Bank of Elgin's annual community appreciation lunch. Other activities planned for the remainder of the year included participating at Kids Shopping Night in December and the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup in the spring. Also, in recent years we have organized a fashion show for the elderly in the area nursing homes and assisted living facility. The group voted to continue this highlight once again.

With a new year comes new officers in our Elgin Chapter. We will be hosting our annual FCCLA Family Night which will include the induction of our new 2009-2010 officers. Look for this on the October calendar. A major discussion during the meeting was deciding on a new look for this years T-Shirt design. We will be showcasing our new look at the District Leadership Conference held October 21, in which we get to socialize with the other members in our district and attend sessions that encourage members to become more active in their chapters, their families, as well as their communities. Also discussed at our planning meeting was participation in STAR. Each member is encouraged to complete a project to present at District STAR in January. Additional highlights for the upcoming year once again include Secret Santas as well as the production of Winter Formal. This year the chapter has decided to invite Pope John Central Catholic students to join us. National FCCLA week and State FCCLA were discussed briefly but detailed planning will come at a later date.

The kickoff to a new year has been met with enthusiastic members ready to contribute to school, community and family. In anticipation of a successful year we thank everyone for their support of our chapter and its endeavors.

Breanna Bode
News Reporter



**FFA BLUE
ROCK SHOOT**
October 11th
1:00 p.m.

**Antelope Shooters Club
Neligh, NE**

Adult & Youth Division
Beginners Division
Ammo for sale at shoot!

YEARBOOK ADS

Have you sponsored an ad in the yearbook yet? What a terrific way to support our school. Besides the advertisement for your business in the yearbook, your name is also listed in every home sporting event program. If you would like to sponsor an ad, please contact Mrs. Rita Heithoff 843-2455.



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

Empty inkjet cartridges can be recycled and re-manufactured. 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.

**BOX TOPS
FOR EDUCATION**



Just a reminder that we are still collecting Box Tops For Education. Throughout 2008-09, \$568.00 was earned from saving box tops. That money is used for misc. items in the elementary and field trip fees. Please keep saving those Box Tops and send them to school with your student or drop them off in the office. Thanks for your help!

Check out their website <http://www.boxtops4education.com/> to sign up your e-mail and receive great coupons and savings for products that have the box tops on them. Plus you can sign up daily for sweepstakes to win more money for the school.

F rom the desk of the Superintendent . . .

By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org



It is almost October. The end of the first quarter is nearing rapidly, specifically on October 16th. Reports on academic achievement will soon follow. By the end of October regular season contests for volleyball and football will be completed with the post season participation soon to follow. I have thoroughly enjoyed watching the students in both the school setting and at the various activities. You should be extremely proud of what you have in Elgin.

The weather has begun to change. As autumn rolls in it is beginning to be quite a bit cooler in the early morning hours. As weather fronts move in and out quickly a warm day may suddenly turn cold. Students need to come to school prepared for this unpredictable phenomenon. May sure your child wears appropriate clothing and is prepared for what may be coming.

Attendance at school is essential. When a student is absent they may be able to make-up the assignment, however they have missed out on the learning opportunities associated with the assignment. Also we think more of the cold weather seasons in regards to colds and flu. This is an unknown quantity that can tie directly to student absences. In other words students need to make sure they attend school now because they can't be certain of future illness. To complicate the picture there is the threat of the H1N1 flu. There is a lot of information out there about H1N1 and it is continually being updated. Be sure and check the school website as we will post updated information about H1N1.

NOTE: CALENDAR CHANGE

There will be NO SCHOOL for K-6 students on Monday, October 12th. The elementary staff will be attending a workshop involving all elementary teachers from the Northern Tier Schools on that date. Elgin Public Schools has been a charter member of the Northern Tier consortium. This alliance has provided this group a unique opportunity to research, evaluate and implement strategies to improve the education for all students.

2009 HONORED ALUMNI AWARD



The alumni committee gives the "Honored Alumni Award" to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to their community, school, and society. This year the award was presented to Dallmont Erickson and Bernadine Anderson Erickson, a couple that are characterized by their daughter as a "team" who continue to support the Elgin community.

Dallmont graduated from Elgin High School 70 years ago with the class of 1939. He spent three years in the Merchant Marines during World War II and returned to Elgin and was active in farming and cattle feeding

Bernadine graduated from Elgin high school 69 years ago with the class of

1940. She graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and taught school for many years as well as Sunday School

The couple have been married for 60 years and have been members of the Elgin United Methodist Church serving on numerous committees during that time. They have established a scholarship fund in their name for graduating high school seniors of the Elgin Methodist Church who wish to further their education.

The Elgin High School Alumni committee was proud to present the 2009 Elgin High School Honored Alumni Award to Dallmont Erickson and Bernadine Anderson Erickson at their annual banquet. Congratulations!

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Jimmy Feeney
jfeeney@esu8.org



There are some interesting things going on with the number 9 this year. For starters, we will see the end of 2009. We have already experienced the last time we can write the date with a three single digits, 9-9-9, for another 991 years. And with all of the Beatles albums being remade, who can overlook the fact that when John Lennon changed his name to John Ono Lennon, he and Yoko's names together contained 9 O's, hence the song *Revolution 9*. There are many significant "coincidences" around the number 9 that are not often talked about:

- 9 is the last simple number.
- 9 is studied in science with the planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.
- 9 is the number of grammatical parts in Language Arts: the verb, the noun, the adjective, the participle, the conjunction, the article, the pronoun, the preposition, and the adverb.
- 9 can be studied in History, as the Trojan War lasted nine years and it is the number symbolizing nocturnal and terrestrial things for the Aztecs.
- 9 is the easiest number to determine as a factor because the sum of the numbers digits will always add up to 9 (27, 2+7=9) (117, 1+1+7=9)(963, 9+6+3=18, 1+8=9).
- 9 If you counted the O's before, you have to put full names together. Try again – John Ono Lennon and Yoko Ono Lennon.

But, most importantly, 9 plays a significant role at Elgin Public Schools this year. The most significant is the 9 members of the senior class. We will watch them graduate and see the accumulation of all the work, effort, and time they have invested at Elgin. As we approach Homecoming, we will see these 9 lead the school in numerous events and two of them crowned the King and Queen of '09. The Student Council is excited to be sponsoring the '09 Homecoming week. They are working hard to ensure positive memories for not only our 9 seniors and 45 High School students (4+5=9), but the entire Elgin community. Going Out with the 9.

The theme around campus will be *Hit Music of the 80's, 90's, & Now*. Each class will be involved in a point's competition that will qualify them to win prizes. Points will be earned for their class posters, class cheer, dress up days, attendance at events, and miscellaneous opportunities throughout the week.

To bring the week full circle, Student Council wants to celebrate our last two significant ties to the number 9. We have 9 girls on our volleyball team. Most teams that have 9 girls are often overlooked, but not our 9. They work hard, work together, and have begun to learn just how good they can be. It will be our job as a school community to Support the 9.

Football will also take the field at the end of the week. This will serve as the culminating event for our Homecoming week. Many schools have neat traditions of giving their fans credit by considering their fans the "12th Man." It is often posted as a focal point in their stadium. We're going to piggyback this idea. How imposing and how great to have the Eagles take the field to a loud sea of orange. Not a black-out or white-out, an All Orange 9th Man.

We are asking that the Elgin community show up in force, All Orange – All the Time - #9: the students and community Going out with the 9, Supporting the 9, and, unmistakably, as a 9th Man!

Show your support by purchasing a \$5 number 9 t-shirt from Student Council. Details to follow.

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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