



EAGLE UPDATE

Phone (402) 843-2455
 Fax (402) 843-2475
 www.elgineagles.org


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


Volume XXVI, Issue 2


September, 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER


THE OFFICE HAS MOVED!

 Sept. 6
NO SCHOOL
 Labor Day

 Sept. 10
LifeTouch Studios
 School Pictures

 Sept. 17
K-6 NO SCHOOL
 Preschool and 7-12 grades will have regular classes.

 Sept. 21
EARLY DISMISSAL
 1:00 p.m.

 Sept. 21
Parent-Teacher Conferences
 3:00 - 8:30 p.m.

During the summer months, the main office was moved to the lower level of the high school building. The classroom at the east end of the hallway was converted into a staff workroom, secretary's office and superintendent's office. The staff workroom includes the copier, supplies, and mailboxes for all staff. The secretary's office features a sliding glass window into the hallway and into the workroom. Students can now drop off items to the office without even entering the office. Many patrons and delivery persons are also enjoying the convenience of having the office on the lower level.



Along with the office moving, the principal moved his office to the west end of the upper floor and the guidance counselor moved to the old principal's office. The bookkeeper relocated to the guidance office on the east end of the upper floor hallway. The 7th grade room has been moved to the west end of the downstairs hallway and the Technology classroom has been relocated to the old office upstairs.

If you think this sounds confusing, you should have been here this summer! Please stop in and take a look around at all the summer improvements!



Though school wasn't in session, the GreenFiber bins at school were kept full all summer long! Now as students are returning to their in-school routines, recycling will once again, be a part of it. Each room in the school buildings contains a recycling box for staff and students

to use for cellulose-based products (papers, newspapers, cardboard, chipboard, etc). These boxes are then emptied by either the classroom students or by high school students each Wednesday. The GreenFiber truck arrives each Wednesday morning to empty the week's collections.

Since we became part of the GreenFiber team almost 2 years ago, 19.45 TONS of paper products have been collected from our location. Nearly 40,000 pounds of waste has been saved from the landfill and has been turned into a biodegradable and efficient insulation product created in nearby Norfolk. If you would like to recycle your paper products with us through GreenFiber, the green bins are located on the north side of the gym building. The bins are *only* for paper and cardboard products and we ask that you *flatten* all boxes (to maximize space and for the safety of the workers). However paper and cardboard does *not* need to be sorted.

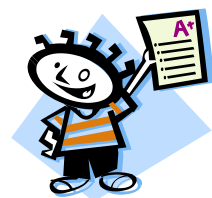




Staff E-mail Directory

Anney Beckman
 Deb Beckman
 Barb Bode
 Ellen Davis
 Steve Dennis
 Krista Eisenhauer
 Randy Eisenhauer
 Jimmy Feeney
 Dianne Gunderson
 Rita Heithoff
 Paula Jensen
 Jeane Johnson
 Deb Jones
 Doug Jones
 Gwen Kinney
 Elaine Meyers
 Heidi Rethmeier
 Julia Schwartz
 Amy Selting
 Stacy Shumake-Henn
 Brenda Siems
 Tina Thiele-Blecher
 Shirley Thorberg
 Sue Vanis
 Sara Walsh
 Carlie Wells
 Kate Zost
 Kim Zwingman

beckmana@esu8.org
 dbeckman@esu8.org
 bbode@esu8.org
 edavis@esu8.org
 sdennis@esu8.org
 keisenhauer@esu8.org
 reisenha@esu8.org
 jfeeney@esu8.org
 dgunders@esu8.org
 rheithof@esu8.org
 jensenp@esu8.org
 jjohnson@esu8.org
 jonesd@esu8.org
 dojones@esu8.org
 gkinney@esu8.org
 emeyers@esu8.org
 hrethmeier@esu8.org
 jschwartz@esu8.org
 aselting@esu8.org
 sshumake@esu8.org
 bsiems@esu8.org
 tthiele@esu8.org
 sthorber@esu8.org
 svanis@esu8.org
 swalsh@esu8.org
 cwells@esu8.org
 kzost@esu8.org
 kshestak@esu8.org



SCHOOLMASTER PASS SYSTEM

Upon enrollment at Elgin Public School, each student is assigned an ID number and PASS PIN. This information is used to access your student's school progress on our Schoolmaster PASS system.

Go to our EPS website:

www.elgineagles.org

and click on Schoolmaster. Type in your student's ID and PIN. Now click on the view you wish to see.

If you have any questions or difficulties, please call or e-mail Paula Jensen in the main office. 843-2455

Noteworthy News

By Mrs. Deb Jones



The Elgin Public Schools music department is ready for another school year! The Community Birthday Calendar project was a success. This summer, the band students delivered 325 calendars to their customers. Thank you so much for continuing to support this project. If you have NOT

received your calendar, please call Mrs. Jones at school (843-2455). We hope you will get a lot of use out of your calendar this year!

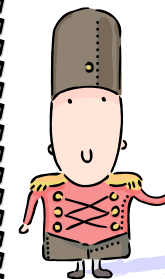
The annual Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island will be held Saturday, October 2nd at 8:30 a.m. Hopefully Elgin's Marching Eagles will participate in the event. We are a small band this year, so we hope we have enough members to march. We would love to see someone from Elgin at this annual event cheering us on. So.....check out Grand Island for a great day of music, floats, shopping and fun!!!

Midwest Music Center in Norfolk will be at the lunchroom for the Cadet Band Instrument Display on Tuesday, September 14th at 5:00 p.m. This is for anyone in fifth grade who is interested in joining band. Students will have the opportunity to "pay monthly to own" their instrument or perhaps find a good used instrument to buy. Be sure to come and get a great start on something that you can do for the rest of your life - and enjoy it!



The first Music Boosters Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 31st at 7:30 p.m. in the lunchroom. Before the meeting at 6:30 pm, students will be checking out band uniforms in the old gym for the school year. Mrs. Jones would appreciate parents help in fitting the uniforms so that it goes smoothly. Please come help out. Anyone who has a student in

beginning 5th grade band, cadet band, band or choir is welcome to the music booster meetings. We want your input! We would love to see at least one parent of each student come to the meetings. We hold a meeting once every other month, so it doesn't take a lot of time in your busy lives. Hope to see you then!



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- 2** Bring the caps in to school
- 3** Your school will receive a check!



www.savefiveforschools.com

How much money should I put in our family lunch account?

- Breakfast (ALL STUDENTS) = 1.40
Averaging 20 days per month = \$28.00 per month
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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.



MAGAZINE SALES Aug. 26 thru Sept. 17

Buy or renew your magazine subscriptions now!

Each high school class will be selling magazines as a fundraiser for their class.

Please contact a high-school student or the school about ordering magazines!

Thank you for your support.

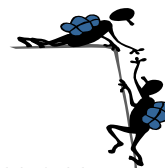


Don't Throw Away That Empty Printer Cartridge! Bring it to school!

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.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Norfolk Area College Fair is September 26 at Northeast Community College

Want to find the right fit for college? Stop by the Norfolk Area College Fair Sunday, September 26 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Northeast Community College. The fair will feature representatives from state and regional colleges and will also include financial aid presentations.

The College Fair is sponsored by EducationQuest Foundation in partnership with the Nebraska Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers and Nebraska high school counselors.

Follow these tips to help you make the most of your College Fair visit:

- * **Before you attend, determine which colleges you want to visit** ([a list is available](#) in the College Fair article at **EducationQuest.org**).
- * **Prepare a list of questions** to ask college representatives. Ask about deadlines for admission, scholarships and financial aid.
- * **Attend a financial aid program at the College Fair** to learn about types of aid and how to apply.

If you have questions about the Norfolk Area College Fair, contact EducationQuest at 888.357.6300. Other college fairs scheduled for this fall are as follows:

- Grand Island Area College Fair**, Sunday, September 19, 1:00-3:30 pm – Heartland Event Center
- Tri-State Area College Fair**, Sunday, October 3, 12:30-3:00 pm – Marina Center, South Sioux City
- Scottsbluff/Gering Area College Fair**, Sunday, October 10, 1:00-3:30 pm – Gering Civic Center
- Lincoln Area College Fair**, Sunday, October 17, 1:00-3:00 pm – Southeast Community College
- Omaha Area College Fair**, Sunday, October 31, 1:00-4:00 pm – University of Nebraska at Omaha

Educational Planning Programs feature “mini college fairs”

If you can't make it to a College Fair, attend an Educational Planning Program this fall at a school in your area (see [Upcoming Events](#) at **EducationQuest.org** for dates and locations). These “mini college fairs” feature representatives from state and regional colleges along with college planning and financial aid information.

The importance of getting involved!

Start the school year by getting involved in extracurricular activities to increase your chances for scholarships and admission to your top colleges. Use the [Activities Resume](#) at **EducationQuest.org** to track your involvement throughout high school – then the information is readily available when it's time to apply.

Senior students and parents...start preparing for college admission!

College may still seem far off, but admission deadlines will start hitting later this fall. Follow these steps to stay on track:

- 1. Contact your top colleges NOW** and ask about application deadlines for admission, college-based scholarships and financial aid. Ask if you need a separate application for scholarships, and about application fees.
- 2. Visit with college representatives** at College Fairs, Educational Planning Programs, during campus visits, and when they visit your high school.
- 3. Apply to your top 3-4 colleges before the deadline.** Along with your application, the colleges will require your high school transcript, class rank, GPA and ACT/SAT score. They may also request a list of your extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, an essay and an interview.

September “To Do” List

Juniors and Seniors ... complete these college planning tasks during September:

- ___ Attend a College Fair or Educational Planning Program in your area.
- ___ Visit [EducationQuest.org](#) to:
 - ___ sign up for the *Countdown2College* e-mail service
 - ___ estimate your FAFSA results using the *College Funding Estimator*
- ___ Seniors, [register](#) by September 10 for the October 9 SAT.
- ___ Seniors, [register](#) by September 17 for October 23 ACT.
- ___ Juniors, ask your guidance counselor about PSAT registration deadlines and test dates.

[EducationQuest.org](#)

[KnowHow2GONebraska.org](#)

[Follow us on Facebook!](#)

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Kearney

308-234-6310
800-666-3721

Lincoln

402-475-5222
800-303-3745

Omaha

402-391-4033
888-357-6300

F rom the desk of the Superintendent . . .



By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org

Greetings from the Elgin Public Schools. I invite you to visit the school and observe the changes that happened over the summer. One being after years of discussion the office was officially moved downstairs. The office is now located by the east doors of the high school building. You will no longer be required to climb the steps to visit with Mrs. Jensen or myself. We also shuffled a few classrooms and other offices around. Stop in and visit us to see it all firsthand.

The 2010 – 2011 school year is off to a great start. The staff reported August 16th and 17th for two days of inservice, meetings and work time. The first day for students was Wednesday the 18th. Our enrollment to begin the year is 172 students. This is up 13 students from where we ended last spring.

I am beginning my second year as Superintendent here. The first year went by very quickly for me. I believe that is because of working in such a great school system. This would include the staff, students, parents and community. Thanks for being there for the students. They are what we are about.



Off to the Races!

First and fourth grade classes have chosen Racing to Read (?) as their AR theme this year. As a beginning activity, they had the opportunity to see, hear, and touch a real race car! Brent Jochum was kind enough to allow the first and fourth grade classes to visit his car and trailer. Brent told the students about his car and things he has to do to be a safe racer. He wore his race suit that keeps him safe from fire and showed us the helmet he wears. We also saw the items in his trailer that he needs to take with him to his races. We learned a lot about race cars and racing. Thanks Brent!



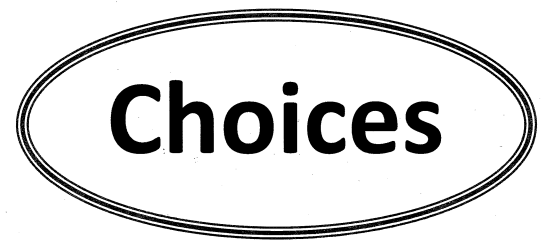


Choices

My message to the students on the first day of school was very simple: Choices. Our choices are shown in our actions and in our attitudes. They can be the simple decisions you merely react to or the complex decisions you dwell on for days.

Each student at Elgin Public is capable of making good decisions and I hope this is shown through their actions. One of my favorite quotes is: “courage is not the absence of fear, it is doing something in spite of fear.” When everybody else is acting one way, it is easier to act that way. My challenge to the students is to see if they will have the courage to do what is right, even in a tough situation.

I try to remind myself how important attitude is in making decisions. There are times that we have to deal with past decision or the decisions of others. In these times, our future is determined by our attitude. If we can learn from our decisions we will grow. A mistake is a mistake if it happens once; if you learn from it and grow, you will be better for making it.



I want to build on last year's message, Be Present: Respect & Kindness. Good choices are often respectful and kind. No matter the situation, we have a choice. If we are present in our choices, this will be one great year!

.....
Don't forget - Parent-Teacher Conferences Sept. 21st

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 399
Elgin, NE 68636

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POSTAL PATRON



My Child Is Absent-- Does the School Need a Note?

It is very important that the school knows the whereabouts of all the students during the school day. Parents should call the school (843-2455) right away in the morning to tell us that your child is sick or has an appointment, but we should still receive a handwritten note from the parent when the child returns to school. All notes are filed in the student's file for the entire year. If there is ever a question about an absence that is reported on Schoolmaster, we have that note to verify the information.

Throughout the school year the North Central District Health Dept. does a weekly surveillance with schools. School surveillance is a state-wide effort that is used for early recognition of disease outbreaks throughout Nebraska in order to treat the diseases, such as influenza, promptly and stop the spread of the disease as quickly as possible. It is important to remember, when you call the school to let them know your child is ill, please let them know what symptoms your child is experiencing. This information is very beneficial in tracking different types of illnesses.

CHECKLIST FOR ABSENTEEISM:

- Flu-like illness
 - *cough
 - *fever
 - *sore throat
 - *headache/body aches
 - *stuffy/runny nose
 - *fatigue
- Fever accompanied by a rash of any kind
- Gastrointestinal
 - *vomiting
 - *diarrhea
- Strep throat
- Asthma and Allergies
- Absent due to appointment, funeral, etc.

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