



EAGLE UPDATE

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

Volume XXIV, Issue 2

September, 2008

DATES TO REMEMBER

NEW FACES AT ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOL



Sept. 1
NO SCHOOL
Labor day



Sept. 8
School Pictures
8:30 a.m.



Sept. 11
Homecoming Coronation
8:00 p.m.



Sept. 12
HOME COMING



Sept. 17
LATE START
10:00 a.m.



Mr. Lee Hall, Supt.

Some new faces have joined the faculty and administration at Elgin Public School. An interim superintendent and three teachers began the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Lee Hall joined the administration on an interim basis. Current Superintendent, Dr. Gayla Fredrickson, is on medical leave at this time and Mr. Hall will fulfill her duties.

Supt. Hall has previous coaching, teaching, and superintendent experience in several schools in Nebraska. He most recently was Supt. at Shelton Public School.

Be sure to stop in and welcome Mr. Hall to our school!



Mrs. Tina Thiele-Blecher



Mrs. Stacy Shumake-Henn



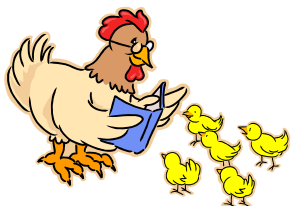
Mrs. Amy Selting

Mrs. Tina Thiele-Blecher will be teaching Jr. High Language Arts and Title 1 reading program. She will also be co-head coach for volleyball. She previously taught at Clearwater Public Schools and is well versed in reading mastery program used at our school.

Mrs. Shumake-Henn began her teaching career at EPS before going to Boone Central Schools. Now she is back to resume her duties as high school English teacher and speech coach.

We also welcome Mrs. Amy Selting, our new business teacher. She is a graduate of Elgin Public School and has taught previously at Pope John Central High School. Mrs. Selting will also coach Jr. High volleyball.

Please help us to make them feel welcome at Elgin Public School and our community!



Don't forget Magazine Sales – Aug. 27 - Sept. 16

Staff E-mail Directory

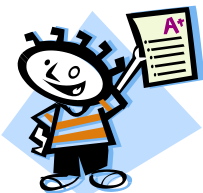
Deb Beckman	dbeckman@esu8.org
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Randy Eisenhauer	reisenha@esu8.org
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Corey Fisher	cfisher@esu8.org
Dr. Gayla Fredrickson	gfredric@esu8.org
Dianne Gunderson	dgunders@esu8.org
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Kim Zwingman	kshestak@esu8.org

SCHOOL PICTURES TAKEN SEPTEMBER 8TH

Remember your order envelope
and money.

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! We have done lots of things this summer and are ready to entertain and compete musically again. The Community Birthday Calendar project was a success. This summer, the band students delivered 300 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 Lions Club Parade in Norfolk will be held Saturday, September 27th at 10:00 a.m. Elgin's Marching Eagles will participate in the event. We will also compete in the Harvest of Harmony Parade on Saturday, October 4th in Grand Island. We love to scan the crowds to see someone from Elgin there cheering us on. So.....travel to Norfolk and Grand Island for a great day of music, floats and fun!!!

Midwest Music Center in Norfolk will be at the lunchroom for the Cadet Band Instrument Display on Thursday, September 11th at 7:00 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 Monday, September 8th at 7:30 p.m. in the lunchroom. Before the meeting, 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 band or choir is welcome to the meetings. We want your input! This is a year for a band trip, so we would like parents to come to the meetings to help in the planning stages of the trip. Hope to see you then!

"Everyone and everything around you
is your teacher."

Ken Keyes, Jr.
American Writer



From the Activities Director . . .

NSAA Did You Know:

Article 3.3.11 of the NSAA Athletic Bylaws states **“Member schools shall maintain proper crowd control and enforce the principles of good sportsmanship and ethics during all interscholastic contests. Failure to fulfill this obligation shall subject the school to penalties as provided in Article 2 , Section 2.11, NSAA Bylaws Governing All Activities.”** As we begin the fall

sports seasons, I would like to remind you that inappropriate behavior at games from both student and adults will not be tolerated during any activity throughout the entire school year. Fans are there to observe the game and cheer on their team. Lets all make a strong effort to represent our school and community with the class and dignity it has come to be known for. Paying admission does not give anyone the right to act any way they wish to act. If there is a problem, you will be removed from the contest and you will not receive a refund of your admission. The NSAA and its member schools have combined to make a joint resolution banning any and all alcohol from being present at all NSAA sanctioned school events. Alcohol is prohibited from being brought onto school grounds for any reason. Anyone found to have alcohol in a vehicle, or in their possession, will be banned from all school activities the rest of the school year. Let’s all do our part to provide a positive experience for the student-athletes who are representing our school and community!

Corey Fisher, A.D.

“Remember that education gives you not only knowledge, which is power, but wisdom, which is control.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.



MAGAZINE SALES Aug. 27 thru Sept. 19

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.

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.

“Learning how to learn is life's most important skill.”

Tony Buzan
British psychologist and writer

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

Breakfast (ALL STUDENTS) = 1.30

Averaging 20 days per month = \$26.00 per month

Elementary (PreK—6) Lunch = \$1.75

Averaging 20 days per month = \$35.00 per month

High School (7-12) Lunch = \$2.00

Averaging 20 days per month = \$40.00 per month

Grades 5-12 are allowed to have seconds or extra milk or juice.

Breakfast seconds are \$.45 or \$.65 Milk/juice is \$.25

Lunch seconds are \$.55 or \$.80

Pizza seconds are \$1.25

Juice is \$1.25

Extra milk is \$.25

Baked Goods are \$.30



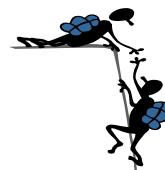
Don't Throw Away That Empty Printer Cartridge! Bring it to school!

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.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Norfolk Area College Fair is September 7 at Northeast Community College

Don't miss the opportunity to visit with representatives from over 80 state and regional colleges during the Norfolk Area College Fair **Sunday, September 7 from 1-3 pm** at Northeast Community College.

The College Fair, sponsored by EducationQuest Foundation and the Nebraska Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers, will also feature financial aid presentations in the Auditorium.

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 the college representatives. Ask about deadlines for admission, scholarships and financial aid.

Prepare pre-printed labels with your name and address to stick on information cards at college booths where you want additional information.

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 the EducationQuest Omaha office at 888.357.6300.

Other college fairs scheduled for this fall are as follows:

Grand Island Area College Fair, Sunday, September 14, 1:00-3:30 pm - Heartland Event Center

Tri-State Area College Fair, Sunday, October 5, 1:00-3:30 pm – Marina Center, South Sioux City

Scottsbluff/Gering Area College Fair, Sunday, October 12, 1:00-3:30 pm – Gering Civic Center

Lincoln Area College Fair, Sunday, October 19, 1:00-3:30 pm – Southeast Community College

Omaha Area College Fair, Sunday, October 26, 1:00-4:00 pm – University of Nebraska at Omaha

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 deadlines and the process to apply for admission, college-based scholarships and financial aid – and ask 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 the Norfolk Area College Fair or an Educational Planning Program in your area.
- Visit [educationquest.org](#) to:
 - estimate your FAFSA results using the *College Funding Estimator*
 - sign up for the *Countdown to College* e-mail service
- Seniors, register by August 12 for the September 13 ACT.
- Seniors, register by September 9 for the October 4 SAT.
- Seniors, register by September 19 for the October 25 ACT.
- Juniors, ask your guidance counselor about PSAT registration deadlines and test dates.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:



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.

EAGLE CLOTHING STORE

Do you need Elgin Eagle Clothing? Here is your chance to order online! In cooperation with Stadium Sports in O'Neill, we are able to offer Elgin Eagle clothing online. T-Shirts, polos, hoodies, and jackets are all available.

Go to our website www.elgineagles.org and click on the button on the right hand side that says "Eagle Clothing Store." Complete the order form and click submit. Your order is automatically sent to Stadium Sports. (If you would like to order more than one of the same item, you will need to submit them on separate orders but you may send one check for the full order.)

**Now send your payment to:
STADIUM SPORTS
418 E. DOUGLAS
O'NEILL, NE 68763**

After they receive your payment, they will prepare your order and deliver it to our school for you to pick up. The order will not be prepared until they receive your payment.

PUBLIC LAW

PL 79-601. Pupils; public or private schools; transportation; buses; conditions; purchase; use; State Department of Education; duties.



The school board or board of education of any public school district may, when authorized by a majority vote of the members of such board, purchase out of the general fund of the district a school bus or buses for the purpose of providing transportation facilities for school children to and from school and to and from all school-related activities. The school board or board of education of any public school district providing such transportation facilities for children attending public schools shall also provide transportation without cost for children who attend nonprofit private schools which are approved for continued legal operation under rules and regulations established by the State Board of Education pursuant to subdivision (5)(c) of section 79-318. Such transportation shall be provided for only such children attending nonprofit private schools who reside in a district which provides transportation to public school students, and such transportation shall extend only from some point on the regular public school route nearest or most easily accessible to their homes to and from a point on the regular public school route nearest or most easily accessible to the school or schools attended by such children. The governing body of such nonprofit private school, on a form to be provided by the State Department of Education, shall certify to the public school district the names, addresses, and days of school attendance of children transported and such other information useful in operating the transportation facility as may be required by rules established by the State Board of Education. Transportation shall be provided for nonprofit private school children only at times when transportation is being provided for public school children.

The school board or board of education of any public school district may enter into a contract with a municipality or county pursuant to section 13-1208.

Source:

The provisions of this section which allow the transportation of nonprofit private school students on public school buses do not violate Neb. Const. Art. VII, § 11; Neb. Const. Art. III, § 18; U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1; or U.S. Const. amend. I. State ex rel. Bouc v. School Dist. of City of Lincoln, 211 Neb. 731, 320 N.W.2d 472 (1982). This section imposes no duty on school boards to provide actual bus service to students. Warren v. Papillion School Dist. No. 27, 199 Neb. 410, 259 N.W.2d 281 (1977). Board of education had power to provide for bussing, but duty to do so was not imposed and mandamus not warranted. Connot v. Monroe, 193 Neb. 453, 227 N.W.2d 827 (1975).

**Give a man a fish and you feed him
for a day.
Teach a man to fish and you feed him
for a lifetime.**
 Japanese Proverb

F rom the desk of the Interim Superintendent . . .



By Lee Hall
lhall@esu8.org

Thoughts from the superintendent

Have any of you seen the movie Ground Hog Day, the one where Bill Murray wakes up everyday and relives that day over and over again?

Well, that is the way that many of us parent. We do the same things over and over again because we are in a “comfort zone.” Comfort, however, is a powerful enemy to the potential we all have to be great parents. To be our very best we cannot allow ourselves to become complacent in “comfort zones.” To fulfill our potential we need to move into “learning zones.”

Research shows us that there are three individual areas in the learning zone. The first is the reading area. Look at a library, there are thousands of books about parenting and helping your children be successful. You can make educated decisions about situations that arrive in your child’s life which are backed by the expertise of the best in the field. You have to personally value the wisdom shared by the authors of those books. You know that you learn more by reading more.

Let’s suppose that you read one book a month about parenting or helping your children be successful. If the books are chapter books and you can read 20 minutes a day, you can double or triple the amount that you are now reading. What a great way to enhance your child’s background. Make it a priority to read!

The second area is the listening area. One major reason that relationships between parents and their children fail is that the adults are sometimes insensitive to the needs and desires of their children and friends. Listen to what they have to say! One super hint for listening is to make better use of your time. Think about the time that you are spending with your children in the car or at the table. If you spend even 30 minutes a day in the car or at the table together, that figures out to be 10,950 minutes a year of great opportunities to listen. You can probably increase the minutes ten-fold if you turn off the radio, TV, video games, and DVDs.

The third area is the giving area. Life as we know it is a checks and balance between give and take. Your legacy will be what you leave others. The giving area allows you to teach what you have learned from the reading area and listening area. Teaching is good for all of us. It represents what we know and believe and someday we will be held accountable by our children for the life-long lessons we are teaching.

My mother loved children and school and I would like to close with a lesson that she taught me by being well-read, a good listener, and a giver.

Her lessons go like this: one lesson of wisdom from this wonderful woman comes in this scenario, she loved to talk about the story of stone soup. The story shows that if everyone contributes a little, there can be a whole lot. In the story a stranger arrives in town and finds that no one has enough to share a meal with him. He tells the townspeople he will make some stone soup. He gets a big pot and fills it with water and stones, he seasons the water and says, “well this would be great if we just had a few carrots”, someone says, “I have a few” so they are added to the soup. He repeats the request with other ingredients and soon has a fine soup that is shared with the entire community. What a great life-long lesson for everyone. She at times would also say that if everyone would line up in a big circle and throw all their problems into the circle that it would help us all realize that even though we all have problems that quite often we would rather have our own. You know that she was right on with the morals of her thoughts, that there is nothing we cannot do if we keep a positive attitude and work together to make Elgin the best it can be.



I hope that her life-long lessons hold some meaning for each and everyone of you too. God Bless you all.



AAAAND THEY'RE OFF! For those who were on or around campus this week, one could easily have used that old race track expression to describe the start of the 2008-2009 school year at Elgin Public Schools. As I write this article, we have successfully completed week 1 of the school year and it has a great feel to it already. Even with the few usual hurdles with last minute student class scheduling and other normal beginning of the year activities, it is safe to say at this point that things are off to a good start and running very smooth! The staff did an excellent job of preparing for the start of the year and the students arrived with an awesome attitude. Indeed, we are off to a great start!

We are excited to welcome three new teachers and also welcome one classified staff member as a part of this excellent educational team. All four of these talented individuals already look to be a great asset to the school and I am pleased with their performance and efforts as we begin the year. Our staff is as strong as it has ever been and they are primed to continue the tradition of excellence that has been expected of the Elgin Public School system for the past 134 years!

The start of a school year also means seeing those yellow busses on the country roads, county black top roads and state highways. Transportation is always one of the biggest priorities that school administration and board members have to prepare for and monitor regularly. Bussing students to and from school is only part of transportation needs for schools. Planning for transportation needs for school activities is also an enormous task and takes much time and effort in scheduling for the many activities that our students participate in each year.

This past spring, Elgin Public Schools was approached about the possibilities of taking a look at bussing needs for this school year and discuss the possibilities in working with Pope John in a cooperative effort to maximize the use of school busses for bus routes. Let's face it...the cost of fuel alone necessitated that the schools at least take a look at options available. Throughout the summer, Pope John Principal, Betty Getzfred and I met and communicated the various options and issues we had in transporting students on bus routes for this school year. Representatives from both schools that included school board transportation committee members and administrators also met once this summer and enjoyed a positive meeting to review buss route maps and discuss ideas and brainstorm ways the schools could work together in the area of bussing students. For the 2007-2008 school year, Pope John utilized three bus routes to transport students and Elgin Public Schools utilized two bus routes. That is five busses transporting students to and from school most every day throughout last year. Throughout their discussions, it became obvious that with five bus routes between the schools and the fact that most all of these busses were transporting nearly a full load of students, it may be difficult to make many changes this year. The representatives attending the meeting this summer felt it would be in both school's best interest to review bussing each summer and continue to consider opportunities where the two schools can work together in bussing students to and from school. Having full busses is a great problem to have in rural schools in Nebraska these days. Also, as a Public School in Nebraska, we are required to abide by the Safe Pupil Transportation Laws that all public schools must follow. I have included Public Law 79-601 that addresses bussing of public and non-public school students in Nebraska.

I believe that it was necessary to take a look at the bus routes and determine just what could be done to be as efficient as we possibly could be while staying within the guidelines that are stated in PL 79-601. I truly believe that Mrs. Getzfred and I did our best to accommodate all students and families involved in the bus routes to the best of our ability. Trust me; it was not an easy job to do.

As we begin the school year, it is my expectation that all students come to school each day and be at their best. I challenge all parents to step up your involvement in your child's education and maintain a high standard of expectation for your child. Remember, in just a few short months we will be thinking AND DOWN THE STRETCH THEY COME...The year will fly by quickly!

Have a great year!

(Please read Public Law 79-601 posted in this newsletter.)

**ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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Elgin, NE 68636**

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