



# EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School  
P.O. Box 399  
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Elgin, NE 68636-0399

Volume XXV, Issue 8

March, 2010


## DATES TO REMEMBER


 March 5  
NO SCHOOL

 March 9  
LifeTouch Studios  
Spring Pictures  
8:15 a.m.

School Board Mtg.  
in ITV room  
7:30 p.m.

 March 12  
NO SCHOOL

 March 17  
LATE START  
10:00 a.m.

 March 29  
Wolfpack Winter  
Activities Banquet

# 100th DAY CELEBRATION



First Graders sponsored a food drive during their 100th Day Celebration. They enjoyed counting the different food items. Pictured are: (back row l-r) Skylar Reestman, Jerikka Simpson, Jasmine Dozler, Theanna Dunn, Kane VonBonn, Claire Kerkman, Hailey Walsh. (seated l-r) Joey Getzfred & Haiden Sleister

The first graders celebrated the 100th day of school on February 1, 2010. We spent the day doing activities with the number 100. We counted to 100 by ones, twos, fives, and tens. We made hats with the Kindergarten class, drew a picture of ourselves at 100 years old, and decided how we would spend \$100. With our fourth grade pals, we put 100 piece puzzles together. We had an at-home project where each one of us created something out of 100 objects of our choice. We had super creations. It was a fun day!



### Elgin Public PASS System



Parents and students can access student's current grades through the EPS website:

[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)

Click on Schoolmaster and enter the student ID number and PIN. If you have questions, please call the school.

Check our website  
for the most current  
news and calendar:  
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)



# Noteworthy News

by Mrs. Deb Jones

## CLASS D ALL STATE BAND

Twenty-four years ago, Rich Richards hosted the first annual Class D All State Band Clinic/Concert which involved 142 students from 37 schools across the state. The tradition continues as last year, 163 students participated in Kearney. For many of those years, students from Elgin Public have auditioned and been accepted into this band. This year is no exception!



Students from all Class D schools auditioned by tape to become a member of this year's band. One of them was from Elgin Public Schools and was accepted into the Wind Ensemble - which is the **TOP** band that performs. Jennifer Rhoads auditioned on snare drum. She placed **fifth** out of all the drummers auditioning - something to be very proud of! There were an over abundance of drummers that tried out and many of them will not be participating at all.

The students will rehearse all day with all the members of the Wind Ensemble in March at the Fine Arts Building on campus of UNK. The conductor of the Wind Ensemble will be Michele Bluford, and Lance Nielsen will direct the Symphonic Band. The concert will be Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 6:30 pm in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Building. There will be an admission for the concert. We would love to see friendly faces from Elgin there! Congratulations to Jennifer - your hard work has once again paid off!!!

## ELEMENTARY SOLO CONTEST

Saturday, March 27, 2010 will be a busy day at Elgin Public Schools! Fourteen schools will be represented by students in the annual Instrumental Solo-Ensemble Contest for music students in grades 5-8. Elgin is the host school. This year there will be around 300 students performing a solo or ensemble trying to be the "best they can be" and receive a blue superior ribbon. Some schools will have a band performing as well. There will be four judges: Larry Jones from Madison, Rob Hartung from Bennington, Darrell Neitzke from Manilla Iowa and Randy Neuharth from Norfolk. Elgin will have 32 soloists and the Cadet Band will perform two selections for the judges. The Music Boosters will host the concession stand. Our meeting to organize that will be Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please come. Good luck to all performers - bring home the gold!



## OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2010-2011, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.



## FFA NEWS

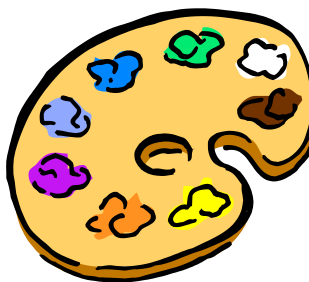
The Elgin FFA Chapter celebrated FFA Week (February 22-26) On Monday, members were invited to drive their tractor to school. Students wore their FFA Jackets to school on Tuesday. FFA members served ice cream to students on Wed. at Pope John High School and Thurs. at Elgin Public High School. Elementary students participated in a poster contest and FFA members judged them on Friday.

Elgin FFA members will travel to Northeast Community College in Norfolk for District CDE contests on Wed. March 3rd. Good Luck students!

Members are preparing for their trip to State FFA Convention in Lincoln on April 7-10th.

*Children are apt to live up to what you believe of them.*

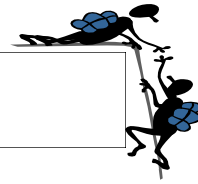
*Lady Bird Johnson  
American former first lady*



## ART NEWS

by Mrs. Rita Heithoff

The EHS 8-12 Art students will have their work entered in the first annual Wakefield "The Big Show" art show on Wednesday, March 24th. Students will prepare their artwork and hang it the day of the show. They will participate in an art activity sponsored by The Wakefield Art Club while their work is judged. After judging is complete the show will be open to the public until 4:00 when the students take down and pack up their work for the trip back to Elgin.



## What happens after you submit the FAFSA?

If you're a college-bound senior, you and your parents may have already submitted the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – or will soon do so. Here's what will happen next:

- **Expect your SAR and Award Notification**

You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) after you submit the FAFSA. This acknowledges that your form was processed and can be used to make corrections to your FAFSA. You'll need the PIN you used to file the FAFSA to make electronic corrections.

The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will send you a financial aid award notification (by mail or electronically detailing the assistance they're offering. They may offer a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans.

- **Compare award notifications**

Compare award notifications from the colleges. Calculate your out-of-pocket expenses for each school to get the whole financial picture. Use the [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#) at **EducationQuest.org** to determine which school offers the best financial aid package. Respond to each notification keeping in mind that most students accept all award packages until they make their final college selection.

- **Keep looking for scholarships!**

Many local, state and national scholarships have deadlines in March, April and May. Talk to your guidance counselor about scholarships that meet your criteria. For local and state scholarships, visit [ScholarshipQuest](#) at **EducationQuest.org**.

## Juniors: It's time to start your campus visits

Start looking at colleges your junior year so you can narrow your choices by the time you're a senior. Follow these tips for successful campus visits:

- **Explore your career interests.** Before you determine which colleges you want to visit, think about your career interests and then research colleges that fit your interests. Ask your guidance counselor about career assessment tools at your school. To find colleges that offer your desired major, see the [Index of Majors](#) at **EducationQuest.org**.
- **Visit your top college choices while the schools are in session.** You won't get the true flavor of the school during breaks or finals week.
- **Schedule your visits at least two weeks in advance.** Ask for appointments with an admissions representative, financial aid counselor, and a faculty member in your area of interest.
- **Talk to a faculty member** about upper-level classes in your anticipated major. Many students change majors because they don't understand the subject matter or the degree of difficulty.
- **Ask the financial aid counselor** how the college may offset tuition costs and about college-based scholarship applications and deadlines.
- **Check out college Web sites.** You'll find admission requirements, academic and social information, and campus photos or a virtual tour.

## Helpful resources at EducationQuest.org

Check out these free resources and tools at **EducationQuest.org** to help you find the college that's the best fit for you:

["College Selection" section](#) – walks you through steps you should take during the college search process.

[College Profiles](#) - has information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country.

["Find the Right Fit" video](#) – follows two high school seniors as they search for colleges that fit their career interests.

## March "To Do" List

### Seniors

- \_\_\_ If you haven't already done so, complete your FAFSA!
- \_\_\_ Expect financial aid notifications during March and April.
- \_\_\_ Continue applying for scholarships.

### Juniors

- \_\_\_ Register by March 5 for the April 10 ACT.
- \_\_\_ Register by March 31 for the May 1 SAT.
- \_\_\_ Schedule campus visits.

FOR THE LATEST IN  
SCHOLARSHIP NEWS,  
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)



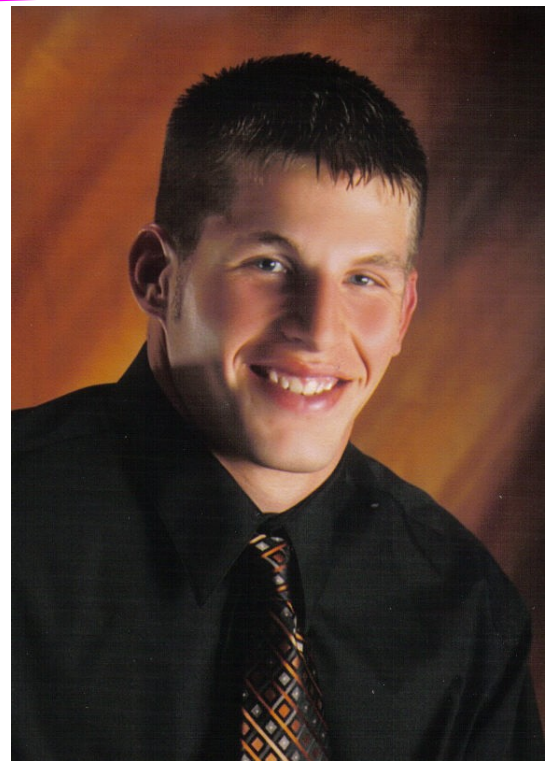
**Mark Your Calendar:**  
April 17 - Jr./Sr. Prom  
May 15 - Graduation 7:00 p.m.



*Tyler Johnson*

Full name: Tyler David Johnson  
Parents: Dawn Meadows, David Johnson  
Pets: Black labs (Whitney & Laddy)  
Favorite School subject: CAD  
Favorite teacher: Mr. Jones  
School activities: football, basketball, track, speech, student council  
Greatest honor during school: being part of a State Runner-up Football team  
Favorite school activity: football because I have always enjoyed the sport  
Most educational experience: Justin Kallhoff's questions in science classes  
Most inspirational person: My grandpa  
Favorite color: green  
Favorite thing to do in spare time: being with friends  
Pet Peeve: tapping foot while the room is quiet  
If I could go back in time I would go to: No desire to travel back, might get stuck in a time portal  
Favorite saying: You live once.  
Something most people don't know about me: I am left-handed.  
Favorite movie: Wedding Crashers  
Dream car: '69 Boss Mustang  
Favorite food: Casey's Pizza  
Favorite school lunch: Breakfast pizza  
Favorite pop: Dr. Pepper  
Favorite TV show: Jeff Dunham  
Favorite type of music: Rock  
Future plans after graduation: Earn a bachelor degree in drafting

Full name: Justin David Kallhoff  
Parents: Gary & Patricia Kallhoff  
Sisters: Katrina, Amanda  
Pets: dog (Squeaker)  
Favorite School subject: Intro to Technology & Weights  
Favorite teacher: Mr. Jones & Mrs. Shoe  
School activities: football, wrestling, track, FFA, speech  
Greatest honor during school: National Honor Society, Eagle Lifter of the Year  
Favorite school activity: football because I love the atmosphere and contact  
Most educational experience: Watching Schindler's List in Mr. Jones's class  
Most inspirational person: Mom and Mr. Fisher  
Favorite color: blue  
Favorite thing to do in spare time: being with friends  
Pet Peeve: When people don't clean up after themselves.  
If I could go back in time I would go to: Sophomore year to the State Football Championship  
Favorite saying: You only live once!  
Something most people don't know about me: I was going to be named Theodore the III after my great-grandfather & grandfather  
Favorite movie: The Goonies  
Dream car: Pontiac T.A./ Firebird  
Favorite food: Casey's pizza  
Favorite school lunch: Sloppy Joe's with pork & beans and a bag of Fritos  
Favorite pop: Dr. Pepper  
Favorite TV show: Sons of Anarchy  
Favorite type of music: Anything but old style country & polka  
Future plans after graduation: major in exercise science and get a degree as a physical trainer and also play football

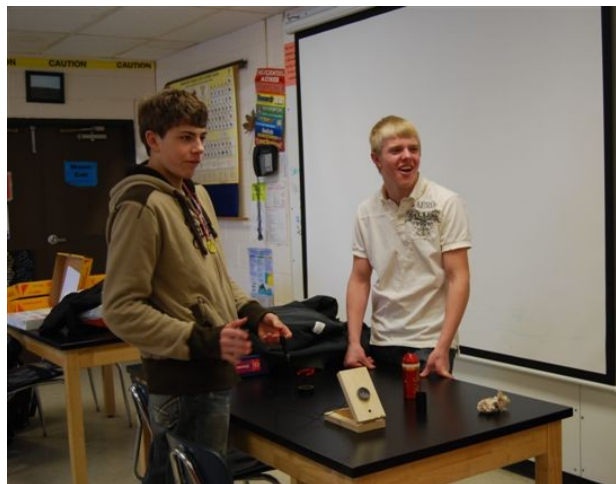


*Justin Kallhoff*

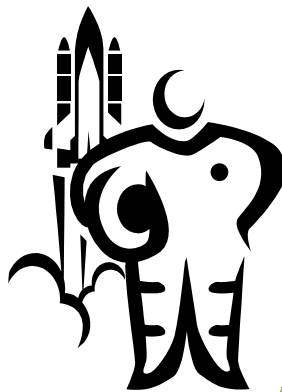
# SCIENCE FAIR PREPARATIONS



Though warmer weather has not arrived, the annual science fair has! Students have stated their problems, done the research, created hypothesis, tested their experiments, and have organized their data. The only steps that remain are to draw conclusions and create their visual displays! There are a variety of projects covering many different subject areas. Please plan to join us Monday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm for the annual EPS Science Fair!



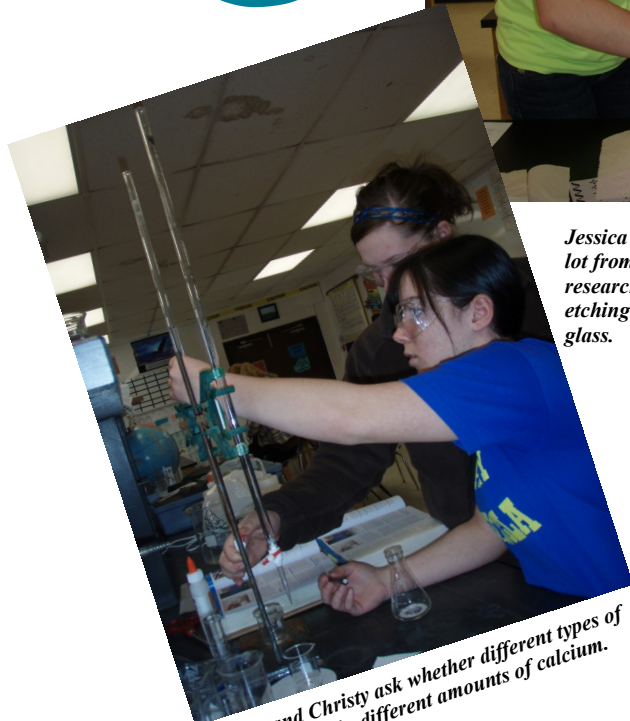
*By building a film canister rocket, this chemistry group can compare the combustion of different propellants.*



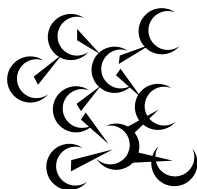
*Ashlyn attempts to scrub Sharpie marker off different types of surfaces using common household products.*



*Jessica and Breanna learned a lot from their glass etching research. Here they attempt etching on different types of glass.*



*Briann and Christy ask whether different types of egg shells contain different amounts of calcium.*



*Andrew and Michael find the mass of a golf club putter as part of their project on friction.*

# Administratively Speaking . . .

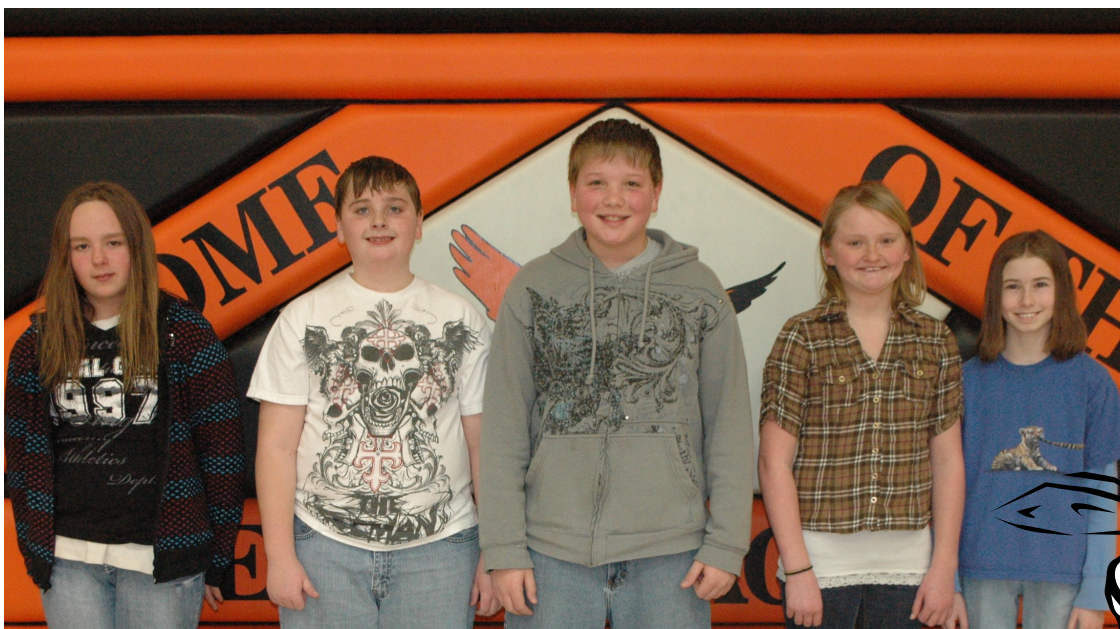
By Steve Dennis  
sdennis@esu8.org



The Nebraska legislature is again in session and with a number of education bills already under discussion. This session is a 60 day session and ends on April 14th. Time will tell how the session plays out for education. About 400 new bills have been filed with about 100 of them having some possible effects on education. We will continue to monitor the session and work toward passing bills that are beneficial to education and our school district.

Senators have expressed feelings that bills having a financial impact will likely not be passed or get out of committee this legislative session. They are trying to hold the line on expenditures. Senators also cautioned schools to plan ahead for the 2011-12 fiscal year when the next biennial budget is made by the legislature. State budget shortfalls are anticipated to be near the \$1,000,000,000 mark at that time. Also after next school year the Federal Stimulus dollars are to be gone. Those shortfalls will likely come to schools in the form of less revenue from the state. During the 2008-09 school year approximately 20% of our cash receipts came via state aid.

Some key bills for this session include: LB240 - Requires schools to spend at least 65% on direct classroom instruction; LB742 - Eliminates confidentiality for any settlement agreements involving public entities; LB898- Student Expression Act- Requires a policy dealing with students publishing in school sponsored publications; LB 1006 – Kindergarten entrance date would change to 5 on or before July 31 beginning with the '12-'13 school year rather than the previous date of October 15<sup>th</sup>; LB1021 - High School Activities Association Act would impose multiple requirements on the Nebraska State Activities Association (NSAA); LB962 - would require blood lead testing prior to school enrollment and LB697 – would prohibit use of wireless devices by school bus drivers. The bills change by amendments as they are discussed.



## Spelling Bee Participants

Brandi Sanderson, Dylan Widger, Alois Warner, Zoey Bergman, and Elianne Heilhecker have qualified to participate in the 5th and 6th Grade Competition at the Antelope Spelling Contest. The Contest will be held in Clearwater, NE, at Clearwater Public School multipurpose room on Monday, February 22nd. The first division will be the 5th and 6th grade competition with the 7th and 8th grade to follow.

Congratulations to the above students for representing EPS at the Spelling Contest.



District 8 FCCLA held their annual STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) competition Wednesday, February 10 at Wayne State College. Four members of the Elgin chapter competed in the following events: Michelle Bauer – Family Challenges and Issues; Jessica Heithoff – Illustrated Talks; and Briann Grosserode and Connor Kinney in Health and Wellness. Jessica and Connor earned gold medals while Michelle earned Gold runner up in her division. Briann Grosserode received a silver medal for her presentation. The Elgin members were among approximately 150 members from nine other district 8 FCCLA chapters.



### 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.

SMILE ..... It's contagious!



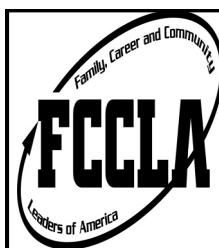
### YEARBOOKS FOR SALE

When your CDs, DVDs and IPODs have all gone the way of 45s, 8 tracks and cassettes, your EHS yearbook will still be there. Order your 2010 yearbook for a lifetime of memories that never goes out of style. 2010 Yearbook Sales will begin March 1st and continue through March 31 for personalized yearbooks. Plain yearbooks may be ordered from March 1st through May. Contact Jamie Bode, Michelle Bauer or Allen Miller to order yours. Order forms are also available on the webpage under "Activities-Yearbook".

Mrs. Heithoff

# π

The math department at Elgin Public Schools will be celebrating pi-day. Look for more details to come!



*"FCCLA would like to thank everyone who purchased and sent Candy grams. We appreciate your support - our project was once again a huge success. Thank you."*

# F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Jimmy Feeney  
jfeeney@esu8.org



The first two months of 2010 have gone quickly. It seems that each night has been filled with a school event or a game, weekends included. It is fun to think back to the successes we have experienced through the Wolfpack. The athletes and the community have adapted well and it has made for a very positive environment for our students. It can be discouraging to think about the weather with the freezing temperatures and brutal winds that started back in October. And it is rewarding to walk the halls at school and see student learning.

I was reading an article on the U.S. Department of Education website about how to help students be successful in the classroom. It is an undeniable fact that when parents take an active part in their student's education, the student benefits. I feel the article did a good job of making simple recommendations to parents for how they can help. They are:

*Show That You Think Education and Homework Are Important*

*Set a Regular Time for Homework*

*Pick a Place*

*Remove Distractions*

*Provide Supplies and Identify Resources*

*Set a Good Example*

*Be Interested and Interesting*

*Monitor Assignments*

*Be Available*

*Look over Completed Assignments*

*Monitor Time Spent Viewing TV and Playing Video Games*

*Provide Guidance*

*Help Your Child Get Organized*

*Encourage Good Study Habits*

*Talk about the Assignments*

*Watch for Frustration*

*Give Praise*

*Talk with Teachers to Resolve Problems*

*Tell the Teacher about Your Concerns*

*Work with the Teacher*

I thought it was good timing to be thinking about these things as we gear up for a busy Spring. It is easy to forget the importance of homework when so many other events fill the evenings. Hopefully reading these tips is useful in either creating a routine or reinforcing routines already in place.

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