



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
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Volume XXVI, Issue 8

March, 2011


DATES TO REMEMBER


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

 **March 10**
End of 3rd
Quarter

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

 **March 11**
NO SCHOOL

 **March 22**
NVC Band Clinic
at EPS Concert
7:00 p.m.

 **March 31**
Science Fair
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



WOLFPACK WRESTLERS EARN MEDALS



Nathan Anderson (2nd place) and Anthony Hemenway (6th place) display their state wrestling medals.

The Wolfpack wrestling ended their 2010-2011 campaign with a successful trip to the Qwest Center in Omaha. We had 5 wrestlers representing us at the state tournament. They were Sebastian Janssen at 125lb., Derek Henn at 130 lbs., Nathan Anderson at 135lbs., Anthony Hemenway at 140 lbs., and Jared Seier at 189 lbs. After three tough days of wrestling, two wrestlers earned state hardware. Finishing in 6th place was Anthony Hemenway, while Nathan Anderson became the Wolfpack's first state finalist. Nathan finished in 2nd place.

The team had a great season. We finished 2nd in the Howells Tournament, 1st in the Elgin Tournament, and 2nd in the Gibbon tournament. The dedication and commitment needed for the sport of wrestling paid off once again!!

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.

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

Noteworthy News

by Mrs. Deb Jones

**MUSIC BOOSTERS MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST AT 5:30 P.M.
IN THE LUNCH ROOM.**

SOLO CONTEST IS HERE!!!!

The Elgin Elementary Solo-Ensemble Contest is this Saturday, March 19th. This year, 10 schools will participate including: Clearwater, Stanton, St. Edward, Cedar Rapids, Verdigre, Orchard, Neligh-Oakdale, North Loop-Scotia, Spalding Public, Spalding Academy and Elgin. About 290 entries will begin performing at 8:00 am and finish around 4:10 pm. Four judges will critique the performers for their ratings. They are: Larry Jones, Darrell Neitzke, Tom Bankers, and Randy Neuharth.

Each student (grades 5-8) from Elgin will perform a solo and the Cadet Band (grades 5-6) will perform two pieces: Fanfare and March and Power Rock at 8:15 am in the lunch room. Come join us for a day of fun-filled music!

NIORRARA VALLEY CONFERENCE BAND CLINIC

Elgin Public Schools in Elgin will host the Niobrara Valley Conference Band Clinic on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. The guest clinician will be Mr. Brad Weber. Brad is the director of instrumental music at Wayne Community Schools in Wayne, Nebraska. Schools participating in the clinic are Clearwater, Elgin, Ewing, Niobrara, Orchard, and Verdigre. The clinic begins with a 12:30 rehearsal session and continues throughout the afternoon. There will be an evening concert open to the public at no charge at 7:00 P.M. at the Elgin Public School Gym. The mass band will be performing pieces together from marches to the Beatles. There will also be performances from individual schools. Please join us for an evening of wonderful music!



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.



**SAVE THOSE MILK
JUG CAPS!**

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 2011-2012, 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.

YEARBOOK 2011



**Be checking
the school
website for
information
about the
2011
yearbook**

sales. We'll be selling the "A Picture is Worth 2011 Words" yearbooks for \$30. You may contact a yearbook staff member or download the form from the website.

Mrs. Heithoff



PAPER PRODUCTS RECYCLING CHANGES

Our GreenFiber recycling bins have been collecting around 5,000 lbs of recyclable materials each month!! Thanks to everyone

who has helped us with this ongoing project! Due to changes at the GreenFiber plant, they will only be emptying our bins every other Wednesday (March 9, 23, etc). To help alleviate this backlog, we have gotten a third, smaller bin. However we need your help to assure that we maximize the amount of materials we can collect. It is imperative that everyone *flattens* cardboard boxes. The air pockets inside an unflattened cardboard prevent others from dumping their materials in the bin, therefore reducing the amount we can recycle each month. A box should only be unflattened if it is *full* of paper, magazines, etc. If it is not full, please dump the contents into the bin, and then flatten the box before throwing it in. Again, thanks for utilizing these bins and helping us keep waste out of the landfills!

Antelope County Spelling Bee

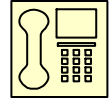


*Alois Warner --
Spelling Champion in 7th & 8th
Grade Division.*



*Jaime Hoefer --
Runner-up in 5th & 6th
Grade Division.*

AlertNow Update



Does the school have your current phone numbers and e-mail address?

In order to use our AlertNow calling system, we must have current numbers. If your phone number, cell phone, or e-mail has changed, please call the school to update our information.

THANKS!

FCCLA



CANDYGRAMS

*Mrs. Darlene Heithoff receives Candygrams from her granddaughters,
Jessica & Callie Heithoff.*

Every year the Elgin FCCLA Chapter sells Valentine's Day candy grams. On Sunday, February 13, 2011, members met to blow up and tie candy to the balloons for the many orders that were purchased. There were 150 small candy grams sold and over 250 large candy grams sold. The Elgin FCCLA chapter would like to thank everyone who helped support their annual candy grams sale. The money will be put into the chapter's account to help pay for state FCCLA and cluster next year. Thanks again!



Brett connects the power.



Brandi, Christian, & Dylan watch the maze.

Science Fair

March 31st

7:00-9:00 p.m.



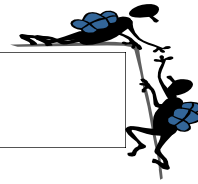
Bailey & Allison measure accurately.



Tre & Cody make adjustments.



Blake & Nick "Text & Drive"



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 corrections online. The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will send you a financial aid award notification (by mail or email) 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**.
- **Check out college websites.** You'll find admission requirements, academic and social information, and campus photos or a virtual tour.
- **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. This will help you understand the coursework that will be required and the degree of difficulty.
- **Ask the financial aid counselor** how the college may offset tuition costs and about college-based scholarship applications and deadlines.

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:

[Go.Visit.College! article](#) - provides college selection and campus visit tips. *Go.Visit.College!* is a campaign that emphasizes the importance of campus visits.

["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 4 for the April 9 ACT.
- ___ Register by April 8 for the May 7 SAT.
- ___ Schedule campus visits.

FOR THE LATEST IN
SCHOLARSHIP NEWS,
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
www.elgineagles.org



Full name: Michelle Lee Bauer
 Parents: Robert and Mary Bauer
 Brothers: Andrew and Javier
 Sisters: Nichole
 Pets: dog - Ace
 Favorite school subject: Weights
 Favorite teacher: Miss Johnson
 Activities: volleyball, basketball, FFA, track, FCCLA, National Honor Society, choir, art, yearbook
 Greatest honor during school: being on National Honor Society for 2 years
 Favorite activity: Sports and Lifting because I love to be active and stay small
 Most educational experience: meeting John Baylor
 Most inspirational person: Corey Fisher
 Favorite color: orange
 Favorite thing to do in spare time: scrapbook
 Pet peeve: people who chomp on gum when they are next to me
 If you could go back in time where would you go: 1950's so I could sing with Elvis
 Favorite saying: "That's legit."
 Something most people don't know about me: I love PEAS!
 Favorite movie: "Hangover"
 Dream car: Impala
 Favorite food: chicken
 Favorite school lunch: chicken fajitas
 Favorite pop: squirt
 Favorite TV show: "Pretty Little Liars"
 Favorite type of music: country
 Future plans after graduation: attend La James International College of Hair Design in Fremont

Full name: Alann James Braband
 Parents: Pam and Ray Braband
 Brothers: Dean & Michael
 Pets: too many to count
 Activities: track, FCCLA, FFA, One-act, speech, recycling, football, wrestling, choir
 Greatest honor during school: State Football Runner-Up
 Favorite activity: FFA, I grew up with it and I love it.
 Most educational experience: Boy's State
 Most inspirational person: Kate Gosslin
 Favorite color: blue
 Favorite thing to do in spare time: read and cook
 If you could go back in time where would you go: the 70's
 Favorite saying: "The first step is believing."
 Favorite movie: "Iron Man"
 Dream car: Aston Martin or Maserati
 Favorite food: pizza or cookies & milk
 Favorite school lunch: pizza
 Favorite pop: sierra mist natural
 Favorite TV show: "NCIS" "MASH" "House" "That 70's Show"
 Favorite type of music: techno/pop
 Future plans after graduation: to attend Metropolitan Community College in Omaha and become a pastry chef



Administratively Speaking . . .

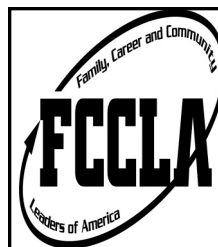
By Steve Dennis
sdennis@esu8.org



The winter sports season is drawing near to an end. Its conclusion is March 12th with the boys' state basketball finals in Lincoln. I would like to congratulate all of our students involved. One measure of success is the improvement acquired from the beginning of the season until the end. This involves hard work, dedication and perseverance. There are so many life lessons that are learned through participation in activities. Great job participants and coaches!!!

The Antelope County Spelling Bee was held in mid-February at Orchard Public School. The contest is divided into two divisions, 5th & 6th and 7th & 8th. Elgin Public School was well represented as Jaime Hoefler was runner-up for the 5th & 6th grade contestants. Alois Warner was the champion of the 7th & 8th graders after a lengthy spelling dual in the oral competition portion of the contest with the second place finisher. Congratulations to all who were involved.

Included in this newsletter is copy of the Annual Report for 2009-10 for the Elgin Public Schools. This report is a quick glance at some of aspects of our district. More information can be found on the district's website www.elgineagles.org. Please visit this site regularly as it is continually updated with new happenings and current information. There is a link on our website that will take you directly to the 'NDE State of the School Report' from the Nebraska Department of Education. You will find it by clicking on Quick Links on the right side of the home page.



"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."



LIFE SCIENCE STUDENTS EXPLORE LUNGS & HEART

In their study of the systems of the human body, the Life Science students recently had some hands-on experience by dissecting beef lungs and a beef heart.

To prepare, the students described, using their senses, what they thought the lungs and heart would look like, feel like, etc. After the lungs and heart arrived, students explored the organs, tracing the path that oxygen would take through the lungs and blood would take through the heart. They were also able to see firsthand how the heart and lungs work together by viewing the connecting vessels (pulmonary artery and vein). After they had explored it from an outside viewpoint, they were ready to begin exploring the inner workings. By cutting open the lungs, they were able to see the bronchial tree; inside the heart they could see the four chambers as well as the valves and other structures.



Students shown dissecting the lung are (l. to r.) Morgan Carpenter, Alex Kuhl, Tanner Dozler, and Alois Warner.

A difference the students noted was the texture and density of the organs: the soft and squishy lungs vs. the firm muscular heart. The students were amazed at all they could see inside these organs. We like to extend a thank you to the Albion locker for donating all our organs and to Laurie Waterbury for delivering them.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Jimmy Feeney
jfeeney@esu8.org



NWEA M.A.P. Assessments

Students in grades 3rd-11th took the MAP assessments this fall. Letters were mailed home to parents, letters were distributed to students, and students took part in a presentation about the assessments prior to our assessment dates. My goal is to explain the difference between the two assessments, clarify how MAP scores can be accessed and hopefully explain RIT scores.

NeSA, Nebraska's Statewide Assessment, is an assessment designed to compare student performance. The assessments are based on subject area standards and results are commonly discussed based on proficiency levels.

NWEA created a series of assessments called Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP). MAP assessments determine a student's instructional level and measures academic growth over time. Results are commonly discussed as RIT scores.

The MAP assessments are aligned with the same standards as the NeSA assessments. Using these two assessments in conjunction with each other provide us with data that will help track student learning. We will hopefully be able to use this data to determine areas of strength, areas for improvement, and individualize instruction to continue to provide a high quality education to the students of Elgin Public Schools.

MAP scores can be accessed through our webpage on by clicking "Quick Links," "Schoolmaster PASS," and then entering your students ID and PIN. Once logged in, click on "Test History." You will then see the RIT score next to the subject area. These scores are not based on grade level, but along a continuum. Once the next assessment cycle is complete, parents will be able to see the growth of their son or daughter throughout the school year.

MAP tests are different than any test students have taken in the past. Each question will determine the next question. Once students get to the tenth question, the assessment tries to give questions that will only be answered correct 50% of the time. This is considered an optimal instructional level, where students are Ready for Instruction Today (RIT). Although RIT does not actually stand for Ready for Instruction Today, it is the simplest way to explain the scores. It is the score that correlates to a student's level at which he or she is answering 50% of the questions correctly. This is a valuable tool for instruction.

If you have questions about scores or the assessment itself, please contact me. Listed below is a few of the reason I am so excited about these assessments:

MAP is...

- Measures of Academic Progress
- Adaptive: Challenging, appropriate and dynamic
- Designed to measure student growth over time
- Individualized for each student
- Feedback is immediate
- Designed to be delivered more than once per year
- Aligned with Nebraska's State Standards

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NEWSLETTER
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