



# 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

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## DATES TO REMEMBER



April 10th  
School Board Meeting  
ITV Room  
7:30 pm



April 13th  
EPS Jr/Sr Prom



April 15th  
7-12 Spring Concert  
7:00 pm



April 17th  
Bloodmobile  
EPS Gym  
9:00-3:00



April 19th  
**NO SCHOOL**  
Easter Break



April 25th  
Science Fair  
EPS Gym  
6:30-8:30 pm

From Mrs. Vanis



During Read Across America Week the preschoolers spent the week reading in many places. One of their favorites was under the table.

For the latest in news, check out our website:

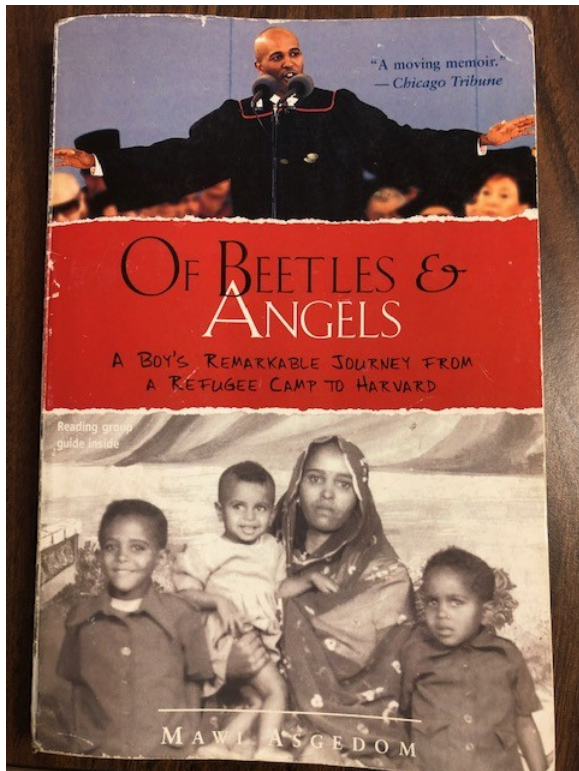
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)

Or follow us on Twitter #elginpublic



Monday, April 22nd is now a  
Regular school day.

We will have school on Monday, April 22nd.



The 7<sup>th</sup> Graders recently finished reading an autobiography, *Of Angels and Beetles*. After reading it they were asked to write one thing they learned about life.

1. To never give up on your dreams because hard work pays off.
2. Treat everyone like an angel not a beetle.
3. One thing that I learned about of Beetles and Angels is that with hard work comes many great things in the future.
4. One character said, "Work hard in school and don't give up."
5. I learned that not being nasty to anyone ever will do great things for you in the future.
6. I learned that no matter what your background everyone is equal and should be treated fairly.
7. You should always treat people kindly, no matter their color, race, or religion.
8. I learned that you need to look at people as if they were angels sent from God.
9. I learned how you can really stand out if you try your hardest.



HAL (High Ability Learners) students working on a project involving dominos.

## 5 GREAT REASONS TO READ ALOUD

- **Expands** vocabulary.
- **Improves** comprehension.
- **Strengthens** imagination.
- **Creates** a lifetime interest in reading.
- **Last, but not least, great one-on-one bonding time!**

21 DAY CHALLENGE



## Mark your Calendar!

May 3—Elementary Grandparent's Day

May 11—Graduation 5:00 p.m.

May 13—Elementary Spring Concert 7:30 p.m.

May 21—Preschool Graduation & Kindergarten Graduation

May 22—Last day of school  
11:00 a.m. Dismissal

From Mrs. Wemhoff



EPPJ Cheer Celebration  
The 2018-2019 letter winners are Talena Woodard, Natalie Bauer, Breanna Carr, and Alyssa Burenheide. A special award was given to Breanna Carr for being a 4 year outstanding cheerleader.

From Mrs. Beckman



The second-grade welcomes Mrs. Chelsi Childers to our classroom during the month of March and April. We are so excited to have her in our room!



From Mrs. Borer

In every Scholastic magazine there is a debate. In our latest issue, the debate was whether it's OK to sneak snacks into the movies or not. Most times the debates are pretty one sided for our class, but this time we were split.

Half of the class said that yes, it's OK to sneak snacks. Devin said that some people might be low on money and don't want to buy the expensive snacks at the theater. They agreed the theater snacks are too expensive. Aiden added there aren't many snack options, especially when it comes to healthy choices.

The other half said that no, it's not OK. Kayton and Kyndal were worried about getting kicked out if caught. The tickets are also expensive, so if you get kicked out then that's a waste of money! Jarek mentioned that theaters make most of their money from concession stand sales so if everyone brought their own snacks then the movie theater wouldn't be making money.

They debated so well that Creighton was undecided. In the end we compromised-maybe popcorn could be shared at the movies and get a meal somewhere afterwards.



**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.

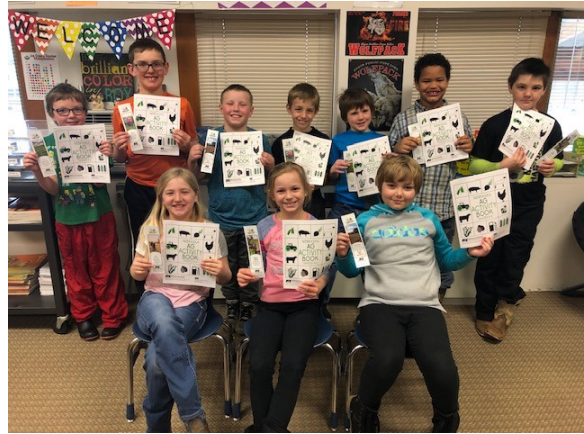
February is Dental Health month and at the end of the month, we welcomed the Elgin Public Library to the second-grade room. They read us a story and we each were able to make a tooth. Thank you, Mrs. Bode and Mrs. Gunderson for visiting us, we had a fantastic time.

From Mrs. Klein



The Elgin Public Junior High quizbowl team competed against 25 other teams at the ESU #8 tournament in Neligh today. They did very well, placing fourth behind Norfolk Jr. High, Norfolk Catholic, (champions) Christ Lutheran (Norfolk).

From Mrs. Eisenhauer



The third and fourth graders enjoyed a visit from Linda Grosserode with the Antelope County Farm Bureau. She read a book titled "John Deere" and shared the importance of agriculture in the state of Nebraska with the students. The students received agriculture activity books, bookmarks, and a copy of the book "John Deere" for our elementary library.

From Mrs. Heithoff

As our ESU and NVC art shows approach students are busy finishing, matting, tagging and show prepping their work. After our last show in April all artwork will be sent home the first week of May except for their current project at that time.

Plans for May projects include two group projects. If our acrylic pour rocks survived the winter out in the landscaping garden all of the students will paint a rock to put around the eagle. Each class will be assigned a color and our plan is to create a rainbow swirl of painted rocks around the eagle statue. One student also suggested that all of the art students print their printmaking design on a long piece of the roller paper to create a group print to hang up in the hallway.

Students may submit their artwork to the Antelope County Fair in the Open Class division this summer as well.

From Mrs. Zwingman



## Here's An App For That!

Elgin Public Schools continues to be very progressive in technology for its students but also for the public and out patrons. We have a lot information and accessibility via the internet and our web page that allow for looking up students grades, lunch accounts and other information as well as news. Don't forget that we have an "APP" that you can download from the app store or Google play. It is available for Apple and Android phone devices and tablets/lpads. This is a much quicker and easier way to get to your favorite school's web information and destination rather than having to always use a browser. Happy internet surfing..... Go Eagles!



## EPS Speech Team Qualifies Seven for State, Earns D2-2 Runners-up Plaque

When the EPS Speech Team left for the D2-2 District Speech Contest in Bancroft on Wednesday, they had no idea they wouldn't be returning home until Friday morning.

They also had no idea of the success they would experience.

The team returned with seventeen medals and the D2-2 District Runners-up plaque.

Seven team members will represent Elgin in eight events at the state competition.

Kira Widger, Theanna Dunn and Hunter Reestman brought home top honors on the day. Widger and Dunn's Duet won gold, as did Reestman's Entertainment speech.

Runners-up medals were earned by Adam Dreger and Cory Romej in Duet, Widger in Serious Prose, and Grace Rittscher in Humorous Prose.

The OID of Reestman, Widger, Rittscher, Dreger and Dunn was also crowned runners-up after tying for the title of champion with St. Edward.

Rittscher captured 3<sup>rd</sup> place with her Entertainment speech.

Jordan Lindgren punched his ticket to state with his Informative speech, placing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Rittscher and Widger accomplished a feat new to the speech team this year. Both are triple entered at the state speech contest. Widger will be competing in OID, Duet and Serious. Rittscher is going in OID, Humorous and Entertainment.

This is the first year speech competitors have been allowed to participate in three events in district competition.

Brea Carr narrowly missed a trip to state, placing 4<sup>th</sup> in Extemporaneous Speaking, while Reestman placed 5<sup>th</sup>.

Dunn placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Serious Prose as well.

Olivia Lindgren and Mateo Kirstine earned Superior Ratings in Poetry, as did Talena Woodard in Humorous Prose.

Co-coaches Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn were thrilled with the day's events.

"We couldn't be happier with the kids. They all put in their best performances of the season, and they did it when it counted."

Following a late but joy-filled awards presentation, the team was faced with a new dilemma: How to get home.

Due to the flooding, all roads home were closed.

Superintendent Dan Polk took action, booking rooms so both Elgin teams (EPS and PJ), could take refuge in West Point.

Upon their safe arrival, the teams were taken care of well by accompanying parents and grandparents, as well as the town of West Point.

"We just can't thank everyone enough for their help. Mr. Polk, Duane [bus driver], the parents, and grandparents were terrific through this whole experience. Even community members from home contacted people they knew in West Point to offer help. And the town of West Point was unbelievable. Their constant care and attention throughout the ordeal was amazing. I also have to give credit to the kids for keeping things in perspective. They were troopers," said Shumake-Henn.

The students busied themselves in a number of ways, including making new friends with the St. Edward and North Bend teams who were stranded right along with them.

As roads at home cleared up, West Point's status worsened. However, the team was able to make it home Friday morning, after tirelessly searching for possible routes.

The team will compete at the State Speech Championships in Kearney on Friday and hope to return that same night!



From Mrs. Lindgren

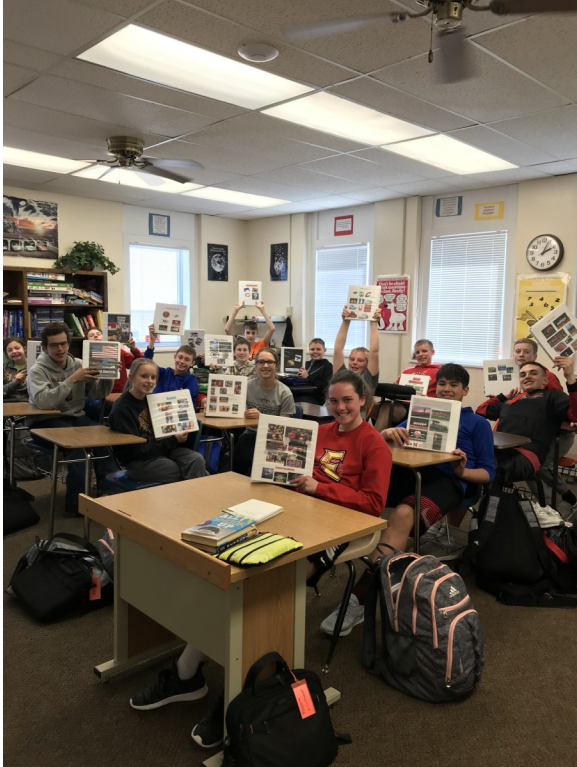
Greetings from Elgin High School Math! With all of the water and ice-related news, it doesn't seem as though parabolas and sectors and integration are quite as important to teach. However, if you think about it another way, many of the structures that were damaged in the recent flood wouldn't exist without the mathematics behind the engineering. Roads and bridges have been built to support the weight of vehicles driving over them. Dams were built to hold back a finite amount of water. Houses were built to stand against wind and rain. There was a lot of math involved in designing and building those structures with a solid foundation. Nebraska was reminded in February that water and ice is capable of eroding that foundation (or attacking from the side).

When the structures were built, this magnitude of water and ice were not part of the calculations. It isn't surprising that many bridges and roadways failed. I am amazed at how much of the infrastructure survived the inflow of water and ice. It will take engineers with mathematical skills to re-build bridges that have been destroyed, and repair crews will need to rely on their construction knowledge to repair many of the culverts and roadways to make them safe for travel. As homes and businesses assess damages, again, engineers will need to use mathematics to determine if the structure is sound or if it needs to be torn down.

The math may not be fancy, but it is critical that our schools make sure the students have a basic understanding of mathematics so they can contribute to the rebuilding of the community when disaster strikes again. Thank you to all of the city, county and state employees and volunteers that have been instrumental in getting Nebraska (as well as surrounding states) back on a solid foundation. Nebraska: Mathematically Strong!



From Mrs. D Heithoff



The 7th and 8th graders in Mrs. Heithoff's study hall worked hard on their portfolios in preparation for student led conferences.

From Mr. Heithoff

Upcoming Music Events	
April 12th	District Music Contest Wisner
April 15th	7-12 Spring Concert 7:00 pm EPS Gym
April 27th	Neligh-Oakdale Honor Band 5th and 6th Band Members Neligh- Concert TBA
May 11th	Graduation 5:00 pm EPS Gym
May 13th	Elementary Spring Concert 7:00 EPS Gym
May 27th	Memorial Day 7-12 Band Members TBA



## Introducing “Eagle Watch”

If you're like me as a parent with technology, you are a bit of a foreigner in the land of natives! For one thing, I don't speak the same language as my kids, but I know some of the phrases! Or, I know enough to know what is popular, new, and trendy, but struggle to fit in! Technology has definitely changed in my lifetime!

Even though I have embraced social media, smart phones, Netflix, Amazon, etc., I still have concerns as a parent. How much screen time is too much? Are any of the apps on my kids' devices unsafe? Although the Federal Law says that age 13 is the age a kid can legally register for social media, am I hurting my kids socially by not allowing? Isn't it weird to watch YouTube videos of some guy playing Fortnite? Are my kids being bullied online? How can I make sure my kids aren't accessing inappropriate videos, even by accident?

As a parent and an educator, it is hard to keep up!

As a school counselor, it is part of my elementary digital citizenship curriculum to work with students on how to be safe online, how to leave a positive digital footprint, and how to recognize and report cyber bullying. I also attend yearly trainings and conferences that address current risky trends, challenges, and behaviors. These trainings and conferences help me keep up-to-date on all types of risky trends, challenges, and behaviors.

Parents also want to be up-to-date. And I'd like to start sharing the information that I receive that can help parents. That is why “Eagle Watch” has been created. “Eagle Watch” is an online presence on the Elgin Public School's website under the “Guidance” tab. It is a space that houses resource information that users of the website can access. Its predominant purpose is to help parents keep up-to-date on risky trends, challenges, and behaviors via articles and videos.

I know that “Eagle Watch” can't encompass all the risky trends, challenges, and behaviors, but hopefully it can be useful.

Each monthly newsletter will display the “Eagle Watch” as a reminder! I hope you visit “Eagle Watch” regularly and find it useful. Let me know!



**Parents: Be sure to check out Mrs. Rittscher's “Guidance” tab on the school's website ([elgineagles.org](http://elgineagles.org)) for information on risky behaviors, trends, and challenges.**



**Statewide Assessment (NSCAS)  
Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System**

**The statewide assessment (NSCAS) is in early April! The assessments will take place in Reading and Math this year for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> with additional assessments in Science in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**The NSCAS test serves many purposes for the school and the Nebraska Department of Education. As a staff, we want to make sure students are prepared and comfortable with the test so their focus is on answering the questions. Here are a few of the things the teachers have been doing to ensure a positive test taking experience:**

- taking practice assessments**
- practicing in the same environment as the test with TESTWIZ**
- reviewing content and skills**
- talking about the assessments**
- trying to excite students about the upcoming assessments!**

**As parents, there are a few things you can do that will help your student succeed:**

- sleep for 8 hours the night before**
- eat a protein as part of breakfast**
- talk to them about the assessments**
- encourage students to spend as much time as they need**
- stay positive about the assessments!**

**If you have any questions, please contact the classroom teacher or myself. Students are prepared, teachers are ready, and we look forward to seeing our success when results are announced in August!**

From Mr. Mlinar

Economics is reserved for juniors and seniors. It is a semester class. The class provides a foundation on how the economy works. So far, students have learned the following topics:

- Scarcity
- Economic Systems and Tools
- US Private vs Public Sectors
- Demand
- Supply
- Market Forces
- Market Structure

We still have a lot more to cover, but we are on our way!





Elgin Public hosted the Niobrara Valley Conference Band Clinic East on March 28th this year. After originally being scheduled for Tuesday the 19th, the event was rescheduled due to the massive flooding that hit Nebraska in March. Luckily, though, we were still able to host with most of the schools and students in attendance.

The NVC directors split the students into two bands during the conference Choral Clinic. Seniors and All-Staters were selected first, and then a draft was held to fill out the rest of the Wind Ensemble with a good selection of instruments. At that time we also selected the songs for the Symphonic Band.

The Wind Ensemble was originally to be under the direction of Dr. Jay Gilbert from Doane University, but due to the rescheduling he was not able to attend. Some of the NVC directors directed the group as fill-ins for the clinician. The Symphonic Band was directed by Dr. Steven Goldeck, visiting director at Nebraska Wesleyan.

Each group performed three pieces for their portion of the concert, as well as individual performances by Elgin Public and Elkhorn Valley. The Wind Ensemble performed *Fanfare and Flourishes* by James Curnow, *Ave Verum Corpus* by W.A. Mozart– arranged by Mark Williams, and *Infinite Horizons* by Robert Sheldon. The Symphonic Band performed *Skygazer Fanfare* by Randall D. Standridge, *Gentle River* by Rob Grice, and *Terracotta Warriors* by Scott Watson. The Elgin Public 7-12 Band performed *The Water Is Wide* arranged by James Swearingen.

The day was a great success and the concert sounded great! I am really proud of our students and all the hard work that they put in that day, as well as throughout the whole school year. Our music program is in great shape, and continues to get better every day!



Below is a picture from the NVC Band Clinic in Verdigre last year.



From Mr. Childers

Take a look at this awesome drone shot of “Eagle Lake” at the school that appeared after the flooding! This was taken a few days after the flooding as the water had earlier covered the parking lot at the bottom of the picture.



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

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