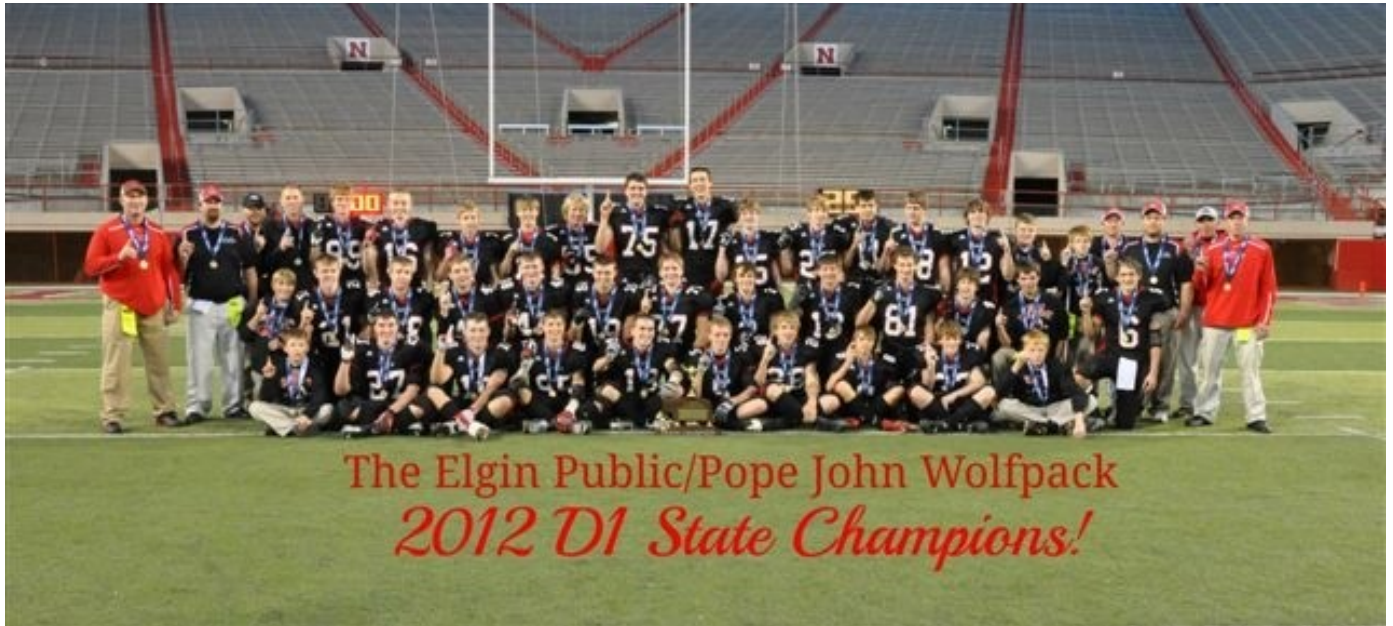




# EAGLE UPDATE

## BACK TO BACK CHAMPS!



*The Elgin Public-Pope John Football team claimed the trophy for the D-1 State Championship for the second consecutive year! Congratulations, Players and Coaches!*

### ***The Road to the State Championship:***

After an Undefeated regular season EPPJ enter the playoffs as the number three seed in the western half of the Class D-1 state playoffs. The first game came against Franklin. They were a 5-3 team that likes to pass the ball. Fortunately, it was a cold snowy day that favored a running attack like ours. The Wolfpack made short work of the Flyers and moved on to the next round to play St. Mary's High School. This game was a little different. We had two starters out with injury but fortunately our kids stepped up and played well. In the quarter-finals the Wolfpack had to face an athletic Loup City team that was much bigger and faster. However the teamed played well together and they dominated the game.

Next up State Semi-Finals, held right here in Elgin. The Warriors came to town with an undefeated record and a very good defense. The game was close at the beginning but our offensive line wore them down and our defense shut down there running game. Next up, Memorial Stadium to play undefeated Exeter-Milligan in the State Finals. Exeter-Milligan had an impressive running game and a very good defense. The Wolfpack got off to a slow start in the Finals and trailed 14 to 8 at the Half. The second half was a dominate performance by the Wolfpack. The Wolfpack scored on every possession the second half and held them to just 1 yard rushing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Congratulations to the Championship Team and Coaches! What a great season!

#### Scores

**EPPJ 56 Franklin 0**

**EPPJ 42 St. Mary's 6**

**EPPJ 60 Loup City 13**

**EPPJ 42 Arapahoe 6**

#### State Finals

**EPPJ 40 Exeter-Milligan 14**



## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR ON WEBSITE



Do you want to know what time the concert starts or if the ballgames have been postponed?

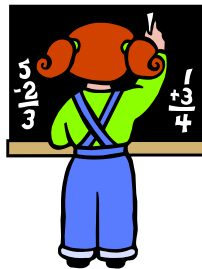
Check out the Activities Calendar on our website, [www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org). This easy-to-use tool:

- provides up-to-date school activities and events
- allows you to view and print a daily, weekly or monthly list of calendar events
- includes a search option to find a specific event
- sends you e-mail reminders for events you select

# Third Grade News

by Mrs. Krista Eisenhauer

The third graders have been very busy during the second quarter. We just finished learning addition and subtraction up to the thousands place. We also worked hard on rounding and estimating problems up to the thousands. We are currently learning about pictographs and bar graphs. We have answered questions about pictographs and bar graphs using the clickers that go with our Promethean board. The students also created bar graphs using the tools on our board. In the next weeks, we will be starting multiplication and division in math. So far we have had four students pass all addition and subtraction timed tests!



We started doing "Lesson Connections" in October which is a book that goes with our Reading Mastery program. The students have been learning about titles, characters, setting, plot, problem, and resolution in their reading stories and AR books. The students have been filling out story maps that go along with each reading story or their AR books. They have become very good about finding the main events in a story and the problem/resolution. Students have also made predictions about stories and then are able to check their predictions the next day. The students have also learned the difference between narrative and expository texts. Some of the students have been finding these different types of texts in the library. We will be reviewing these story elements and types of text throughout the year to prepare for the NES-Reading assessment in the spring.

In Science, the students have just finished learning about rocks, minerals, and changes to the earth's land. We will be learning about force, gravity and Newton's Laws of Motion after Thanksgiving. In Social Studies, we are continuing to learn about the Midwest states and should be starting the Northeast region by December.



# Noteworthy News


By Mrs. Deb Jones

Whether we are ready for it or not, the holiday season is upon us! The students are preparing for the Christmas concert, the cast for the musical is picked and we'll soon be ready to perform for you.

The Christmas concert is Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the gym. It would be wonderful to have a big audience – there is surely some Christmas cheer to bring for all of you to enjoy! The little children (Pre-school through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) will be singing some familiar carols and some new songs with a slight twist. The concert band and high school choir will perform Christmas songs with something new and bouncy for all to hear.

Grades three – six will be performing a musical. It is entitled "Twas The Night Before Christmas" based on the famous poem by Clement Moore. The narrators will tell the wonderful story as the children are "snug" in bed with "sugarplums" dancing in their heads! We hope to see all of you there.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU  
FROM ALL OF US IN THE  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT!!!



## Youth Basketball Info



I just wanted to update the parents and kids who are involved in youth basketball that the kids should be getting their shirts and basketball in the near future and hopefully before the first game. I am also putting the dates and times below so everybody knows the times their kids go. Thanks and Go Wolfpack Basketball!!!

### Tentative Dates for 2012-2013

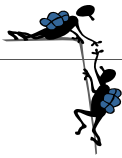
(Time and Dates are subject to change without notice)

(If any changes occur they will be posted on the doors of the gym)

- November: 3rd, 10th, & 17th  
**24<sup>th</sup> NO BASKETBALL Thanksgiving**
- December: 1st, 8th, 15th, and 29th  
**22<sup>nd</sup> No Basketball – Holiday vacation**
- January: **5<sup>th</sup> No Basketball - Wrest tourney at EHS**  
12th, 19th, & 26th (last day)

# Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



## Prepare for the FAFSA with free programs and resources

If you are a senior, you should complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) after January 1. Colleges will use your FAFSA results to determine how much they will award you in federal, state and college-based financial aid. To prepare for the FAFSA, take advantage of the following *free* EducationQuest programs and resources:

## Financial Aid Programs

EducationQuest is conducting statewide Financial Aid Programs that explain the types of financial aid, how to complete the FAFSA, how colleges award financial aid, and the student loan process. The programs are free and open to the public. [Click here to find the program nearest you](#). Juniors and seniors and their parents or guardians are encouraged to attend.

## FAFSA Webinars

EducationQuest will conduct free webinars on “**How to Complete the FAFSA**” that will cover financial aid basics and how to complete the FAFSA. Webinars are scheduled for:

**Wednesday, December 5** - 7:00 pm (CT)

Webinar link: <http://eqf.org/TS7r5Q>

**Wednesday, December 19** - 7:00 pm (CT)

Webinar link: <http://eqf.org/QSr92Q>

**Monday, January 14** - 7:00 pm (CT)

Webinar link: <http://eqf.org/SsgDSz>

**Wednesday, January 16** - 7:00 pm (CT)

Webinar link: <http://eqf.org/XToPN4>

To join the Webinar, click on the link under your desired date. The password is **Presentation**. If you have questions, call EducationQuest at 800.666.3721 or email [info@educationquest.org](mailto:info@educationquest.org).

## College Funding Estimator

To estimate your FAFSA results now, use the [College Funding Estimator](#) at **EducationQuest.org**. This program will ask for 2012 income tax information. You may estimate your tax information to complete the *Estimator* but should use your completed 2012 tax returns when you submit the actual FAFSA.

## Seniors...have you submitted your college applications?

If you haven't submitted your admission applications yet, it's time to get serious! Contact your top college choices to determine application deadlines and procedures. Ask if the admission application is also the application for college-based scholarships. If not, ask about the scholarship application process.

## Winning the scholarship game

Follow these tips to increase your chances of earning scholarships:

- ◆ **Don't pay for scholarship searches.** Use free resources such as [ScholarshipQuest](#) at **EducationQuest.org** with over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. Free national sites include [Fastaid](#), [Scholarship Monkey](#), [ScholarshipExperts.com](#), [School Soup](#), and [Scholarships.com](#).
- ◆ **Visit your guidance counselor often** for information about local scholarships.
- ◆ **Place scholarship applications in deadline order.** Local awards and college-specific applications deserve top priority because you're more likely to earn them.
- ◆ **Update your activities, honors, community service or paid jobs** using the [Activities Resume](#) at **EducationQuest.org**.
- ◆ **Earn the best possible ACT/SAT scores** by taking the exam in the spring of your junior year and again in the fall of your senior year.
- ◆ **Use quality references** such as a teacher, coach or counselor. Encourage them to write specific examples of your leadership skills. Give them advance notice and a specific deadline.
- ◆ **Tailor your essay to the scholarship.** Ask an English teacher to read your essay and offer advice on making a big impact. Your essay will need to stand out from other applications.
- ◆ **Pay close attention to grammar, spelling and neatness.** Ask at least two people to proofread your entire application.

## December “To Do” List

Complete these tasks during December to stay on the right college planning track.

### Seniors:

- Submit college applications.
- Estimate your FAFSA results using the [College Funding Estimator](#) at **EducationQuest.org**.
- Attend the [Financial Aid Program](#) in your area.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.

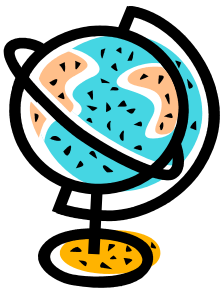
### Juniors

- Attend the [Financial Aid Program](#) in your area.
- Search for scholarships.
- [Register](#) by December 28 for the January 26 SAT.
- [Register](#) by January 11 for the February 9 ACT.



# Classroom Snippets ...

## From the History Room

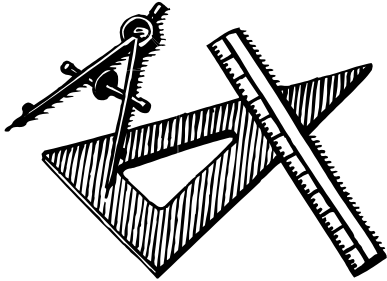


◆8th grade World History classes continue to analyze the enlightenment and how it led to the American and French Revolutions.

◆9th grade World Geography classes have just concluded studying the United States and Canada and will soon begin studying Latin America.

◆10th grade American History classes have studied the Great Crash of the stock market in 1929 and are now looking at how it affected the entire nation and world.

◆11th grade American Government classes are looking at the role the legislative branch plays in our government and how it may affect you in everyday life.



## From the Math Room

Geometry is the mathematical study of space. This includes definitions of necessary terms concerning geometry, the study of the properties of different shapes, and application of their properties to real life situation. Geometry studies the concepts of congruence, similarity, right triangle measure, and parallel lines. Area and volume of different geometric shapes will be explored in the spring. The student will demonstrate formal deductive reasoning (done for this year) and inductive reasoning (on-going). The study of points, lines, and their relationships will be incorporated with the use of the computer throughout the year.



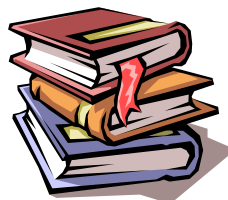
## Spanish Club

The Spanish Club celebrated El Dia de los Muertos with a movie night and nacho bar on November 1st. The Spanish 3 classes baked and decorated skull shaped sugar cookies for all of the elementary students, teachers, and staff to celebrate as well. On November 2nd, the Spanish 3 classes attended a concert in Central City. The performer was Puerto Rican pop star Ennio Emanuel. The students had a great time.

## 6th Grade News

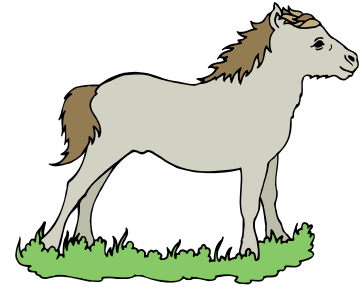


Sixth graders are using the 6 traits of writing to compose descriptive paragraphs. Traits include: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. Good Luck on your writing endeavors.



## Library News






New Books have recently arrived in the high school library. New titles include *Between the Lines* by Jodi Picoult, *The Enchantress* by Michael Scott and many more. Come in and check out some of the new books.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Writes to Ag Pen Pal

As a part of agriculture in the classroom, we are writing letters to Mrs. Stillwell from Gordon, NE. We received our first letter this month and it was an interesting read! Her mailing address is Gordon, but she lives between Merriman and Hyannis. The closest grocery store is 40 miles away and the nearest Wal-Mart is 105 miles away! We learned a lot about her ranch, what they do on it, and about the sandhills. We also received pictures of her meadow and her miniature pony meeting her neighbor's adopted horse from the wild mustang herds! All of us will be writing letters back to her soon telling her about ourselves-using all of our writing skills, of course. Check out the webpage under Elementary to see the pictures!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

-  **Dec. 13**  
**School Board Mtg.**  
**7:30 p.m. in ITV room**
-  **Dec. 19**  
**Bloodmobile in EPS Gym**
-  **Dec. 20**  
**EPS Christmas Program 7:00 p.m.**
-  **Dec. 21**  
**Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.**
-  **Jan. 4**  
**School Resumes**

# Time Flies . . . in the English Room

by Mrs. Shoe



Ah the time continues to fly as we have fun in the EPS English room. And just what do we do to make time pass so quickly? Here's a tiny glimpse of what we've been up to in the wonderful world of language arts.

The Seniors continue to hold their noses to the grindstone. After an epic, fun-filled *Beowulf* adventure, they turned to the joys of research. Following some discussion of credible sources and the alleged evils of *Wikipedia*, the students were off and surfing. Their step-by-step research process has included an annotated bibliography, paraphrasing and quoting practice, writing around the quote, and outlining. Though the work keeps them busy, we do still continue to have some entertaining moments. After all, it is the Seniors.

The Juniors are currently enjoying the fruits of their Shakespeare-reading labors by watching the most modern version of *Romeo and Juliet*. From here, we will move into an advertising unit that coincides with our early American literature unit and the persuasive writing unit we have been working on. Common writing errors, vocabulary workbooks, and the writing process have been keeping the students busy as well.

The Sophomores, or as I like to call them, poets in progress, are now delving into the world of descriptive writing. Using their newfound poetry knowledge, they are now applying some creative wording to the essay writing process--a means of developing some of the more subjective traits of writing. Once we travel further down the road of our writing journey, we will take Greek mythology by the horns and experience its vast impact on today's society.

The Freshmen, too, are honing their writing skills. These beginning authors are currently applying daily grammar lessons and exercises to their narrative writing masterpieces. Members of the class are working either individually or in partners to apply all that they have learned during the short story unit to create their own original short stories. Guidelines include following a plot line, demonstrating characteristics of the short story genre, and implementing a number of literary devices. The students are also utilizing the steps of the writing process and applying the Six Traits of writing.

Creative Writing students continue to write creatively. The students have made a smooth transition from poetry to songwriting. After some inspirational guitar and vocal performances by a few members of the class, we have turned our attention toward the defining characteristics of a good song. In groups or individually, these young writers hope to pen some lyrics and add music when possible.

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## Election Day



Students in Kindergarten and 1st Grade traveled to the polls on Tuesday, November 6th. They explored the voting booths and learned about the importance of voting as an American citizen.

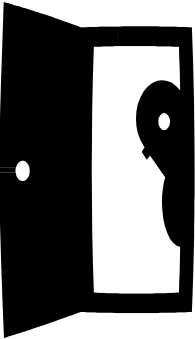
The students waited while their teachers, Mrs. Siems and Mrs. Gunderson voted.





# The Door in the Wall

By Mrs. Thiele-Blecher



The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Class just finished reading the novel, The Door in the Wall, by Marguerite de Angeli. It is a historical fiction novel about Medieval Ages, where Robin the main character has to overcome many obstacles in his life. While reading the book, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders were asked to infer about the significance of the title and uncover a theme, or special message in the book. As we finished reading the book the 8<sup>th</sup> graders were asked to write about their

“doors” or “walls” in their own lives:

1. I was failing in every class, and could be held back. But I got my grade up.
2. I practice hard so that I am better at the sports I play.
3. I remember trying to practice volleyball, cause I wasn't good at it. But with practice I became better.
4. Wall: When I could not walk when I had a sprained ankle.
5. The Door in my life is my mom's dad past away. I just knew he was in a happy place and he wasn't driving his truck.
6. Wall: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Door: Good teacher to help
7. When I get discouraged I think of the book, *The Door in the Wall*, because the main character Robin has many obstacles that he gets through with the help of friends.
8. Having awesome family and friends
9. When I was about 7 years old I was fighting with my brother and stuck my hand through a glass window and cut my wrist and I was 2 mm from dying.
10. The biggest wall that I've had is moving ten hours from my friends and family.
11. When I broke my wrist, I learned how to do things one handedly.
12. The one door that I will always remember is my grandpa helping me ride a bike. Even though he is in a wheelchair, he pushed me till I finally got it.
13. My biggest wall is my shyness. It has ruined so many things for me. It is even as bad as to even my cousins it takes me a while to talk to them. But my door is my friends they are helping me overcome my shyness.

*Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.*

*H. Jackson Brown, Jr.*

# Heithoff Boys Know their Finances!



*Kyle Heithoff, Andrew Heithoff, & Nick Heithoff performed well on Finance Challenge!*

The Nebraska Council on Economic Education recently sponsored *The Finance Challenge* online for Nebraska schools across the state to compete in. A rapid fire, 35 question quiz was given to a team of three students and was scored based number of right answers, wrong answers, and time it took to complete it. All teammates completed the quiz individually and had to take it within an hour of each other.

Nick, Andrew and Kyle Heithoff, all students in Mrs. Selting's Accounting I class, registered to compete as a team and took the quiz on a day classmates Cordell and Tanner were competing in Ag. Results were returned on Friday, November 16 and the Heithoff boys placed 43<sup>rd</sup> out of 359 high schools in the state of Nebraska that competed! First place went to Fillmore Central High School while Lincoln Northeast placed second.

Congratulations Nick, Andrew and Kyle! We know you will have a successful financial future!

## Homework tip: Make a checklist.

When doing homework, it might be beneficial to make a checklist and follow the below steps for each question you are answering.

- ◆ Read the directions.
- ◆ Read the question.
- ◆ Ask yourself what the question is asking.
- ◆ Look back/search to find the answer.
- ◆ Is your answer answering the question.
- ◆ Eliminate any answers.
- ◆ Make your choice.

Mrs. Zwingman

# Second Grade Poems



Second Grade students display the Halloween poems they wrote with the high school creative writing class. The students had a great time creating the poems and making pictures to go with them on the computer.



*Junior High students in the MATHCOUNTS Club are Elianne Heilhecker, Katie Copeland, Lydia Behnk, Myranda Palmer, and Luke Walsh.*

## **MATHCOUNTS CHALLENGES STUDENTS**

This year, seven students from 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade were selected to join the MATHCOUNTS Club, a national program which was developed to provide fun and challenging math problems for middle school students.

Each week we meet to discuss, explore, and test our mathematical skills while enjoying a snack. A regional competition will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at Wayne State College.

Members of the MATHCOUNTS Club include, Katie Copeland, Elianne Heilhecker, Luke Walsh, Lydia Behnk, Myranda Palmer, Hunter Reestman, and Kira Widger.



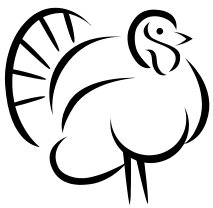
# LIFE SCIENCE EXPLORES



*Carter Schindler, Hayes Miller, and Ashton Evans dissect a pumpkin.*

The Life Science students recently explored parts of plants that they didn't know existed! They explored the reproductive structure of a plant--the flower. They saw how some "flowers" are actually many flowers put together. They even examined tiny eggs inside a plant's ovary.

Students also dissected pumpkins on Halloween to reinforce the knowledge that fertilized eggs develop into seeds and are surrounded by the swollen ovary (the pumpkin 'meat' and shell). They dissected seeds to identify the three parts, and explored the tasty side of plants by eating the toasted pumpkin seeds! Hopefully next time these students see a flower or fruit, they'll appreciate its complexity a little more!



## *First Graders are Thankful*

The first graders listened to a story called *Thanks for Thanksgiving* by Julie Markes. They wrote some things they are thankful for.

- I am thankful for God and my body. Jacksyn Sehi
- I am thankful for my body and heaven. Baylee Busteed
- I am thankful for nature and my brother. Blake Henn
- I am thankful for nature and Charlie. Dane Kilday
- I am thankful for families and food. Aubrei Clouse
- I am thankful for dad and my dog. Kassidy Foster
- I am thankful for my dog and Jesus. Isaac Walsh
- I am thankful for my brother and great grandma. Keyera Eisenhauer
- I am thankful for heaven and my family. Brenna Martinsen
- I am thankful for pumpkin pie and turkeys. Nicolas Anderson
- I am thankful for my grandma and grandpa and my dog. Cal Wells
- I am thankful for people and the world. Abriel VonBonn

## Elgin FFA Members attend National FFA Convention

By: Bailey Carpenter, FFA Reporter

Fifteen members of the Elgin FFA Chapter along with around 55,000 other FFA members, advisors, and guests across the United States attended the 85<sup>th</sup> annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis IN. October 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. For the past seven years the convention has been held in Indy and will move to Louisville, KY for the next seven years and then back to Indy in 2016.

While in Indy members attended sessions, visited the National FFA Expo, shopped at the FFA shopping mall, saw Brantley Gilbert and The Band Perry, and went to "The World's Toughest Rodeo" featuring the best bull and bronc riders, toured Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY and stopped at the St. Louis Arch. Among those keynote speakers during the sessions were Olympic gold medalist figure skater, Scott Hamilton, the National FFA Advisor, Dr. Steve Brown along with speeches and ceremonies made by the National FFA Officers, and Josh Bleill, an Iraq War veteran and now spokesperson for the Indianapolis Colts, who was severely wounded in 2006 in Fallujah, Iraq, losing both of his legs above the knees. Besides being able to attend and visit these exciting places and hear these inspiring messages, the member's watched national contests including parliamentary procedure and public speaking. They also sat in on a workshop of choice, many of which attended one called "Protect the Harvest" which discussed how students can identify current legislative issues that threaten American livestock production and other animal-related activities and how to advocate on these issues on behalf of farmers, ranchers, hunters and related agribusinesses.

On Saturday, the last day of convention three members of the Elgin Chapter officially received their American FFA Degree. Alex Dierks, Nathan Anderson, and Ben Pelster all met the qualifications to receive this high honor. Ben was the only one able to make the trip out, but we are very proud of all three of them!

Up next for the FFA Chapter are Leadership Skill Events or LSE's in O'Neill on December 12th. These are state qualifying public speaking events such as Parliamentary Procedure, Sr. and Jr. Public Speaking, Agriculture Demonstration, Job Interview, and Creed Speaking. All members that are participating have been practicing hard and we are looking forward to a good contest.

***Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough.***  
***Oprah Winfrey***



# F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Adam Patrick  
adam.patrick@elgineagles.org



***Congratulations to the students who made the First Quarter Honor Rolls.  
Keep up the good work!***



### ***All "A" Honor Roll***

Lydia Behnk, Liam Heithoff, Elianne Heilhecker, Kelsey Welding, Alois Warner, Kyle Heithoff, Brett Kinney, Ivy Prater, Blake Anderson, Andrew Heithoff, Nicklaus Heithoff, Angela Richart

### ***Superior Honor Roll***

Breanna Couch, Ashton Evans, Myranda Palmer, Zoey Bergman, Kenneth Bush, Katelyn Copeland, Jamie Hofer, Luke Walsh, Tiarra Thramer, Tera Henkenius, Tyler Smith, Tanner Welding, Stephanie Bode, Hannah Kerkman, Hunter Thramer, Madison Voborny, Mykil Copeland



### ***Honor Roll***

Shelby Dohmen, William Miller, Anthony Getzfred, Taylor Sehi, Taya Voborny, Dylan Behnk, Taven Cameron, Dylan Widger, Christopher Bush, Kao Takaya, Bailey Carpenter, Allison Koenig, Tiffany Vaughn, Juliana Dunn, Alexander Grosserode, Levi Kerkman, Zachary Polk, Garett Schindler, Cordell Waterbury



# Administratively Speaking .

By Dan Polk  
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



It is truly hard to believe but the holiday season is upon us. In the last month I have had more meetings and time away from school than I have in quite awhile. A really good sign is that I haven't enjoyed that very much. In the middle of November some of the superintendent's duties take him or her away from school for a few days (state conference, monthly meetings, pre-legislature conferences, etc). It is usually a bit of a respite from the daily grind before the holidays. Yet I always seem to miss the daily interaction with students and staff during that time. This year I noticed it more than ever. I think that says a LOT about our daily environment and climate here at the Elgin Public schools.

Rest assured we are all staying quite busy going about educating the youth of the district as well as keeping up with all the activities and extra-curricular things that make Elgin Public Schools a GREAT PLACE TO BE. I would also like to commend the staff on doing some "extra" things for the kids this first semester; in the classroom AND out. It is noticed and appreciated. Also to the local Women's club I wanted to say I enjoyed our afternoon chat, and I think I can speak for both local schools when I say thank you for your continued support. Some bigger, some smaller, none better-----gotta love Elgin, Nebraska!



*Dec. 21 -  
Early Dismissal  
1:00 p.m.  
Happy Holidays!*



***For the most current news and calendar,  
go to [www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org).***



*Celebrating 125 years of faith, family and friends.*

*Q-125 Celebration -  
June 20, 21 & 22, 2014*

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