



EAGLE UPDATE

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December, 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER


 December 12
Bloodmobile
At EPS Gym

 December 12
School Board
Meeting 6:30pm

 December 13
Elementary
Christmas Concert
7:00pm

 December 18
High School
Christmas Concert
7:00pm

 December 21
EARLY OUT 1:00

 Dec 24-Jan 4
NO SCHOOL

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

District Runner-Ups!



The 2018 Wolfpack Volleyball team ended their season 21-12 and as District 3 Runner-Up, falling to Humphrey-Lindsay Holy Family 3-0 on Saturday, November 3rd. The girls qualified for Sub-State by winning their sub-district with wins over Clearwater-Orchard and Elkhorn Valley. Great Season Girls!

From Mrs. Vanis



The afternoon preschoolers are ready for winter! Thanks to Mr. Polk, Mr. Wemhoff and Elgin Public Schools for giving all the students at Elgin a stocking hat along with an awesome eagle!! The morning preschoolers have a lot to be thankful for this time of the year. They are anxiously awaiting the holiday season.



From Mrs. Wemhoff



**I made this little poppy
As red as red can be.
I made it to remember
Those who fought for me!**

Kindergarten and 1st Grade Veteran's Day poem

From Mrs. McClellan



First graders are mastering their adding doubles facts! They created a doubles rap video to celebrate! Check out their video on Twitter!

From Mrs. Beckman



In math, the second grade talked about a line of symmetry. With paint, they made symmetrical designs and identified where the line of symmetry would be.

From Mrs. Eisenhower



The third graders proudly wore their new Elgin Eagle hats in the Eagle's Nest!

From Mrs. Borer



Green Screen Wonders

With our new Wonders reading program, there is a different writing genre every three weeks that we work on. We start with prewriting, then drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Fifth graders all wrote a personal narrative about a time when they faced a challenge and learned something about themselves. We decided to publish them digitally by recording students reading their narratives in front of a green screen and posting on our school website and Mrs. Borer's YouTube channel.

Here are the steps they took to publish their personal narratives:

- Went online or used photos from home to use as a background in place of the green screen.
 - With photos chosen, they knew if they should be standing or sitting in front of the green screen and during which part of their story.
 - Decided if they wanted to wear certain clothes or bring props that went with their story.
 - Mrs. Drueke helped with setting up the green screen and recording us the first day.
 - Used the GreenScreen app to upload and edit our video and photos to complete the presentation.
 - Posted on Mrs. Borer's YouTube channel and www.elgineagles.org under "Elementary" and "Fifth Grade"
- Check out all of their videos for yourself! For most students, it was their first time writing a personal narrative and using all the steps of the writing process. They did a great job! We will continue working on this all year and probably do the same publishing process at the end of the year to see how they improved.

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn



The Journalism crew has been busy this semester. To date, they have published five newsletters and released a number of videos including the following: EPS Back to School, W-EPS Promo, Episode 1, Episode 2, Homecoming at EPS, Episodes 1 & 2 Bloopers, and Halloween at EPS. Episodes 3 and 4 are currently in production, and the former should be released before Thanksgiving.

You may view their videos on Twitter (@WEPSTheBeak) or on their Youtube channel. If you would like to receive notifications of their latest releases, feel free to subscribe to their channel (W-EPS: The Beak).

From Mrs. Zwingman



Attention! The Lunch Program is now accepting online payments.

Contact
annebeckman@elgineagles.org
for more details.



From Mrs. Lindgren

Good morning, Elgin Eagles! It has been busy in the mathematics department! I know that most of my students are counting the days until Christmas break! I am also looking forward to a break in the action. Thanksgiving break just isn't long enough!

My Algebra 1 students learned the formal definition of slope, so they are plotting points and analyzing equations to find slopes of lines. They are also finding out that they have been applying slopes in many situations.

Advanced Algebra 2 has been learning about polynomials, and all of the vocabulary that goes along with it. After mastering quadratics, they are attacking higher-order polynomials. They will be able to explain what coefficients, degrees, and terms are if you ask!

Geometry students are learning more about proofs than they ever wanted to know. Fortunately, we are connecting that with properties of shapes (mostly triangles right now), so they are able to visualize the problem to help them solve it.

Precalculus is digging into exponents and logs and how both can be applied to solve problems. They will be cramming a lot of learning into the last few weeks of their class, including matrices, partial fractions, and equations formed from conic sections, so they are ready for their cumulative exam!

Making progress in my calculus class has been a challenge due to scheduling conflicts for five schools. However, we are back on track! Hunter and Anna can tell you about derivatives, slopes, limits, and how all of them are related!

My computer science class competed in the first round of Cyber-Patriots in November, and enjoyed the challenge. Round two will be on December 7th. If you see a member, wish them well! We have to trouble-shoot Windows 8.1 in this round, and I know that I didn't like working with that software.

I want to take this opportunity to tell my students thank you for your patience as you adjust to my hectic end-of-the-day routine. I will try to be in my classroom after school most Tuesdays for students that need help!

From Mrs. Rittscher

This past week, I had the opportunity to attend the Nebraska School Counselor Association Conference. It is an important conference to attend to stay knowledgeable in the field of school counseling. The conference includes keynote speakers as well as several breakout sessions.

Social Emotion Learning (SEL) continues to be a topic of keynote speeches and in breakout sessions. At Elgin Public School, SEL is addressed in elementary guidance. During the school week, I meet with the elementary grades for 1/2 hour a week, using the Second Step Social Emotion Learning Curriculum. Teachers also assess students using an instrument that helps identify needs of individual students in social emotion learning. I address those needs in elementary guidance, but also in small groups and in individual sessions.

What is SEL?

According to CASEL (2018), "Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions."

If you are like me, you might not remember a lot about your elementary experience, but you do remember the emotions you felt in a variety of elementary experiences: taking tests, learning new content, friendships with classmates, teachers who were strict, etc. Learning and social emotional experiences are definitely connected when you can call to mind and hear the learning environment experiences and the emotions that you associate with them. Today's kids are no different!

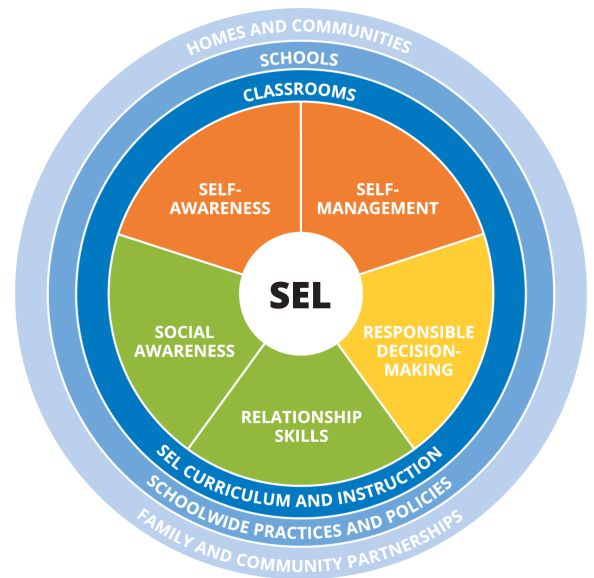
As parents, you can help your children at home with social emotion learning just by being familiar with the core skills and helping to foster them when your children talk about their day at school. In addition to asking, "How was your day?" you can ask, "What was good about it?" and "What was hard about it?" Help them sort through their big emotions like anger, frustration, and worry. Explain that big emotions are normal, but that in order to get the most of their learning experience, they need to self-regulate emotional state. We work on self-regulation in elementary guidance: identifying strong emotions, start calming exercises, and problem solve the situation to avoid in the future.

Below is a chart from CASEL (2017) that identifies the core skills in Social Emotion Learning. If you'd like to know more about SEL, feel free to talk to me and/or research on your own. The CASEL website is a good place to start: <https://casel.org/core-competencies/>

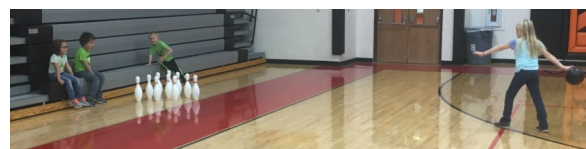
From Mrs. R. Heithoff



The 6th Grade Art class has been busy creating acrylic pours on CDs and record albums. Check out their masterpieces on the school website under "Academics-Art".



From Mr. Becker



Elementary students have been working on their bowling skills this month, and having a blast!



Veteran's Day

November 11, 1918: this was the day that the United States as well as other countries from around the world formally signed an armistice, or ceasefire, formally ending World War I. World War I was unlike any other conflict the United States, or the world had ever been involved in.

While Veterans Day may coincide with Armistice Day or Remembrance Day, we celebrate Veterans Day to remember those veterans who have served and continue to serve in the United States Armed Forces. It is sometimes put in the same category of Memorial Day (which is celebrated in May), however, Veterans Day is to honor those who have served and are serving, while Memorial Day honors those who have fallen in combat.

President Woodrow Wilson issued a message on November of 1919, one year after the signing of the armistice which ended World War I. In this message, it detailed the celebration of Armistice Day. In part, the statement reads that America should celebrate the gratitude of victory as well as the peace and justice to help rebuild the nation after the costliest war in recorded history.

On June 4, 1926, Congress requested that President Calvin Coolidge sign an act which would make every November 11 a celebration of Armistice Day w/ appropriate ceremonies. This would be to a day which was "dedicated to the cause of world peace". Later on, veteran Raymond Weeks issued an idea to have a celebration of all veterans. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill into law, and in 1954, Congress amended the bill to replace 'Armistice' with 'Veterans' to celebrate every November 11.

This year is a special year for the annual Veterans Day observance. This marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the armistice formally ending World War I. It is important that we remember each day in honor of our veterans, past and present, that have served and are currently serving the United States of America.

Elgin Public Schools is committed to the celebration of this national observance day, as we never forget those who have served and continue to serve us. Service men and women are the ones who allow us to enjoy the freedoms that they have fought to preserve. They are the ones who allow us to receive a great education, enjoy our way of life, and most importantly, come home to our loved ones at the end of every day.

To those who have served and continue to serve, we say thank you. Your sacrifices never go unnoticed, and we are appreciative of the sacrifices you continue to make to keep our country the greatest country in the world.

School Bus Safety Tips

- Walk with your kids to the bus stop and wait with them until it arrives. Tell kids to stand at least three giant steps back from the curb as the bus approaches and board the bus one at a time.
- Teach kids to wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting off and never to walk behind the bus.
- If your child needs to cross the street after exiting the bus, he or she should take five giant steps in front of the bus, make eye contact with the bus driver and cross when the driver indicates it's safe. Teach kids to look left, right and left again before crossing the street.
- Instruct younger kids to use handrails when boarding or exiting the bus. Be careful of straps or drawstrings that could get caught in the door. If you children drop something, they should tell the bus driver and make sure the bus driver is able to see them before they pick it up.
- Drivers should always follow the speed limit and slow down in school zones and near bus stops. Remember to stay alert and look for kids who may be trying to get to or from the school bus.
- Slow down and stop if you're driving near a school bus that is flashing yellow or red lights. This means the bus is either preparing to stop (yellow) or already stopped (red), and children are getting on or off.



Typing Tips

We live in the Digital Age. Kids are using computers at a very young age. When using a laptop or desktop computer, children must understand how to use the keyboard properly. Therefore, if you have a young child, it is important that you monitor your children's typing technique on the keyboard. **Let's help our children now before they develop bad habits that are hard to break!**

- **At a young age, it is more important to focus on accuracy!** Do not worry about speed! Make sure children are using the correct fingers and limiting errors!

- **Always** keep fingers on **HOME ROW**. Home row is **A, S, D, F** and **J, K, L, colon/semicolon** buttons.

- Each finger is responsible for its own set of buttons. (See the picture below to see which finger is in charge of which buttons) When typing, use the correct finger and gently type the needed key. Then, **quickly return** the finger to its assigned home row key.

- As time progresses, children should start looking at the screen instead of down at the keyboard. Typers should take short breaks every 20-30 minutes. Move around and stretch. Give your muscles, joints, and eyes some rest.



From Mrs. McClellan



FCCLA students traveled to Northeast Community College on October 26 for their district leadership conference! Mary represented the Elgin chapter, and other members competed in a knowledge bowl competition, made door decorations for the veterans, and attended a variety of breakout sessions. It was a great day exhibiting leadership skills!

From Mrs. Klein and Mrs. Druke



Congratulations to the Elgin One Act team for their excellent performance at NVC. Outstanding Performance awards went to Kaylee Martinsen, Theanna Dunn, Jessica Getzfred, Ally Wemhoff, Kira Widger, Grace Rittscher, Cory Romej and Hunter Reestman. A huge shout out to Adam Dreger, who is the 2018 NVC East Outstanding Actor.

From Mrs. D. Heithoff



Algebra I students are working hard to learn the different forms of linear equations and how to graph them.

Book Fair!



The Elgin Education Association will once again be hosting a book fair before and after the Elementary Christmas Concert on the 13th of December. It's a great opportunity to get the perfect Christmas present for your student!

From Mr. Childers



Integrated science set up a Rube Goldberg machine. Their task was to shut off the lights, and they succeeded!

For the most current news and calendar,

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
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ALL A Honor Roll

Front Row: Jack Wemhoff, Keyera Eisenhauer, Baylee Busted, William Heilhecker

Back Row: Hunter Reestman, Ally Wemhoff, Grace Rittscher, Ethan Hinkle



SUPERIOR Honor Roll

Front Row: Gareth Behnk, Breanna Carr, Araceli Palmer, Anna Heilhecker, Colton Wright

Back Row: Corbin Kinney, Nick Anderson, Adam Dreger, Mateo Kirstine, Kira Widger (Not pictured)



Honor Roll

Front Row: Mary Nichols, Leslie Nichols, Brian Heithoff

Middle Row: Austin Good, Kristopher Moreno, Riley Vitamvas, Olivia Lindgren

Back Row: Brenna Martinsen, Myles Kittelson, Blake Henn, Norman Grothe, Kaylee Martinsen

Aubrie Braband (Not pictured), Theanna Dunn (Not pictured), Joey Getzfred (Not pictured)

Administratively Speaking .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



This month's article could be about a variety of things; but I don't think it hurts to visit the idea that we are all people first. What do I mean by that? I mean we all have our own families, emotions, trials, beliefs, habits (good and bad); and far too many times we are judged, labeled or identified by just one. One of the most important things we can teach, relay and/or model for our children (and I'm referring to 0-18 as children), is that people are MORE than just what we see or maybe deal with them one on one about---More than just one or two situations or events. I used to always profess, and I need to more in the future, That Mr. Polk is at least five different people. He is a parent, a community member, a church member, a husband and the superintendent of schools. I always emphasized a point, in that while you may not like one of him, please don't throw out the rest of him because of that. Heck even if you can handle him in just three out of the five different people, it's a win. That's how I try to, and I would hope all try to, approach all people. That "lesson" or point of perspective, is such a valuable one that I think it a key trait, habit, or perspective that we can ALL teach/relay/model to our children. We all have several sides to us, and no one is a total success or failure in all of them. Wouldn't it be great if the members of our society more often looked at each other as 3, 4 or 5 in one rather than condemning and vilifying the one? I know many professionals I wouldn't consider great people and even more great people I might not think very highly of in their job and so on. Those are my own judgments and opinions, right or wrong; but I always try (sometimes not very successfully—as I'm far from perfect) to see the other people too. Do you? Happy Holidays!!! GO EAGLES!!!!!!



FFA members; Kira Widger, Theanna Dunn, Marissa Preister, Alyssa Burenheide, Faith Kinney and Harlie Bode attended the 91st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis October 24-27th. Over 60,000 FFA members, guests and advisors from across the county joined them. The chapter was lucky to run into Marie Meis and a few other Nebraska FFA officers!

From Mrs. Schwartz





Five members from the Elgin FFA chapter traveled to Grand Island on November 2nd for a two day conference called Pathways to Career Conference(P2C). Members were; Talena Woodard, Emily Mlnarik, Theanna Dunn, Jessica Getzfred and Kali Dworak.

P2C is a conference put on by Nebraska FFA. The main focus of the conference is introducing FFA members to various careers in agriculture. Industry partners representing each of the Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources pathways were present to engage and interact with members. Members had the choice to choose from five different industries.



FFA members participated in livestock judging contest November 1st and 14th.



***December 21 -Early Dismissal at 1:00 p.m.
School Resumes January 7th***

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