



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

Volume XXIX, Issue 7

February, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER



Feb. 3
NO SCHOOL
Teacher
Inservice



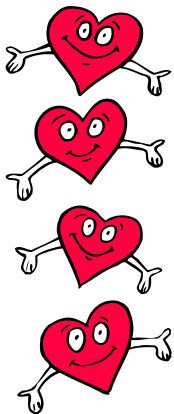
Feb. 12
School Board
Mtg. 7:30 p.m.
in ITV Room



Feb. 14
Happy
Valentine's
Day



Feb. 21
NO SCHOOL



If I Lived in a Snow Globe...

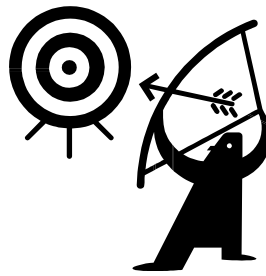


Showing off their snow globes are Third Graders: (back row l. to r.) Trenton Reel, Corbin Kinney, William Heilhecker, Violet Schwager, Kadance Dworak, and Devin Lange. (front row l. to r.) Erica Leistman, Jamie Dozler, Camryn Pelster, and Jackson Wemhoff.

The third graders created their own snow globe winter scenes. First, they had to think about what it would be like to live in a snow globe. They wrote about what they would do while living inside the snow globe. Ideas included ice skating, building snowmen, snowball fights, snow forts, and snow angels. The students then were able to draw a winter scene to go along with their ideas on a snow globe background. Mrs. Eisenhower took a picture of each student bundled up in their snow gear. Each student had to act out what they would be doing in the snow globe for the picture. The students then added their picture to the winter scene and drew details of what they would do. Finally, we added some fake snow and a clear plastic plate to create our snow globes. The students had fun coming up with ideas to do in the snow and now are patiently waiting for some REAL snow! Check out close up pictures of each snow globe on the Elgin Eagles web page under Third Grade!



Second Grade Sets New Goals



When the second grade came back to school in January they each wrote a goal for school this semester. This is what they are working for during the second semester.

Nicholas – My New Year’s resolution is to be a good sport in PE and I need to work hard on my papers in Reading Mastery.

Keyera- My New Year’s resolution is to pass my subtraction timed tests.

Dane – My New Year’s resolution is to do better on my math papers.

Jacksyn – My New Year’s resolution is to do better in Science because I struggle in that.

Xavier – My New Year’s resolution is to do better on my drawing in art and to be able to play the games better in PE.

Baylee- My New Year’s resolution is to get more 100’s on my A.R. tests.

Blake – My New Year’s resolution is to be a good sport at P.E.

Brian – My New Year’s resolution is to do better in math.

Aubrei – My New Year’s resolution is to subtract better in math, I struggle with that.

Brenna – My New Year’s resolution is to get more 100’s on my A.R. tests and to do better in Social Studies.

Abriel – My New Year’s resolution is to get better at subtraction in math.

Elementary Spanish



Each week Mrs. Klein is able to spend time in the lower elementary classrooms. We are working on basic vocabulary and culture. These are the prime years for learning a second language, so it is a great opportunity to be in their classrooms.

The third grade has finished up the unit on colors and did some practice on the Promethean Board. Next week we will begin basic conversational vocabulary.

THINK!

Before You ...

Text
You Tube
Google +
Twitter
Instagram
Facebook

THINK!

T—Is it true?

H—Is it helpful?

I—Is it inspiring?

N—Is it necessary?

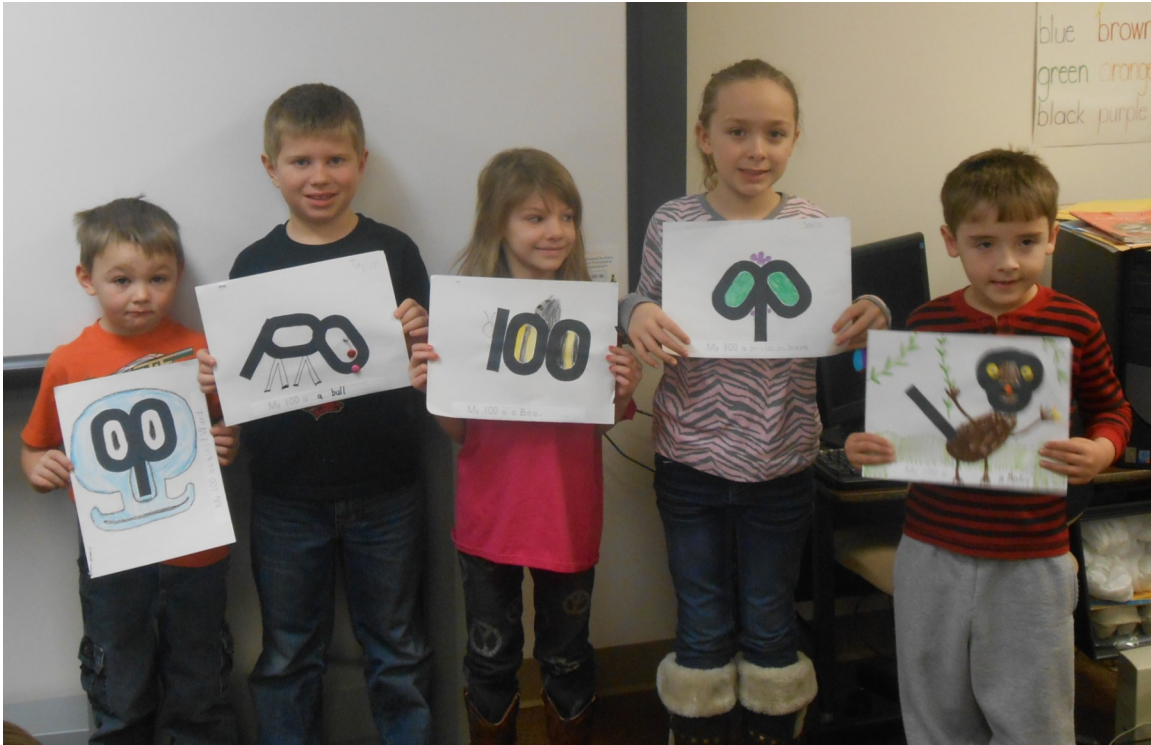
K—Is it kind?

RESPECT YOURSELF.
RESPECT OTHERS.



www.preventingcrime.ca/THINK

100th Day of School



In preparation for their 100th day of school, the kindergarten and first grade students were given a homework assignment to create a picture out of the digits 1 0 0. Here are some of their creations displayed by: (l. to r.) Jonathan Leistman, Taylor Beckman, Lauren Vitamvas, Sara Bode, and Gabe Schwager

Snow Days

CALLING SCHOOL OR ACTIVITIES OFF DUE TO WEATHER is a very difficult and somewhat controversial decision sometimes. Please be advised that if you EVER disagree with the decision and wish to keep your children home or have them come home that is completely within your discretion. Just let the school know.



Elgin Public PASS System



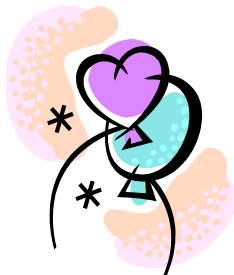
Parents and students can access student's current grades through the EPS website:

www.elgineagles.org

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

FCCLA CandyGrams For Sale

Balloon on a stick with candy delivered in Elgin with a special message for your Valentine!



One Size Only --- \$5.00

Kinds of Poppables available:

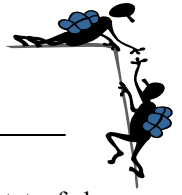
Snickers, Reeses, Skittles, Nibs,
Plain or Peanut M & M's, Hugs & Kisses, Starbursts
Place your order by February 12th with any FCCLA member or call the school 843-2455.

Payment must accompany your order.

Order forms are available on the website.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



It's FAFSA Time!

If you're a college-bound senior, you must complete the [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to apply for state, federal and college-based financial aid. Submit the form before your college's FAFSA priority date as some financial aid is awarded first-come, first-served. Priority dates usually fall between March 1 and April 1. To learn your college's priority date, check the financial aid section of their website or contact their financial aid office.

Follow these steps to complete the FAFSA:

Complete your taxes early as the FAFSA requires current tax information. Within three weeks after you and your parents electronically file your tax forms, your IRS data should be available to retrieve and transfer into your FAFSA. See this handout in the "[Paying for College](#)" section at [EducationQuest.org](#) for more details about IRS Data Retrieval.

Gather these [student and parent items](#):

- 2013 federal income tax forms and, if applicable, Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)
 - 2013 W-2 forms
 - Student's driver's license number
 - Social Security numbers
 - Birth dates
 - Date parents were married, separated, divorced or widowed
 - Current cash, savings and checking account balances
 - Current investment values (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, CDs, etc.) excluding your home and retirement accounts
 - Value of business (if more than 100 employees)
 - Value of investment farm (Do not include the value of a family farm that you or your parents live on and operate.)
 - 2013 child support (paid and/or received)
 - 2013 Workers' Compensation
 - Other untaxed income in 2013 such as housing/food/ living allowances for military and clergy
- Alien Registration Number for eligible non-citizens

Complete and file the FAFSA

Complete and file the FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](#). The colleges you list on the application will receive the results.

If you're filing the FAFSA for the first time and would like **free** personal help, call the EducationQuest location nearest you to set up an appointment: Kearney - 800-666-3721, Lincoln -800-303-3745, or Omaha - 888-357-6300. Call **now** as appointments for January and February are quickly filling up.

Check out these **free** FAFSA tools

Visit the "[FAFSA Tools](#)" section at [EducationQuest.org](#) where you'll find:

College Funding Estimator – estimates your FAFSA results

FAFSA Demo – walks you through the online FAFSA

FAFSA Checklist – provides a list of items you need to gather before you complete the FAFSA

FAFSA Tutorial – explains each FAFSA question

February "To Do" List

Complete these tasks during February to stay on track for college.

Seniors:

- Complete student and parent 2013 tax returns.
- Complete the FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](#).
- Continue to apply for scholarships.

Juniors:

- [Register](#) by February 7 for the March 9 SAT.
- [Register](#) by March 7 for the April 12 ACT.



Variety Is the Spice of English

by Mrs. Shoe

This year's English classes have been all about change for two reasons: 1. The state English standards seem to be carved in stone-- for a little while anyway 2. If Mrs. Shoe teaches the same concepts the same way for too long, she becomes bored. As a result, all classes have been working on different units at different times.

English 9 students spent first semester working on grammar, journals, and vocabulary. These concepts continue to be the focus of second semester with the addition of short stories, novels, and plays.

The Sophomores spent the better part of first semester reading novels--all of which they seemed to relate to very well. In addition, they worked on vocabulary and began a writing unit toward the end of the semester. Poetry, Greek mythology, continued work on writing and grammar, and Shakespeare will round out the year. The fact that we have two students joining us live via polycom cart from Clearwater-Orchard has only added to the excitement of English 10.

The Juniors tackled *Romeo and Juliet* at the beginning of the year and then spent quite a bit of time on persuasive essays. In addition, they worked on vocabulary, common writing errors, and a mini advertising unit. The students of English 11 are completing the year with some popular American literature from both novels and our literature anthology.

The Senior English students first traveled the world through some literature from different areas of the globe. In addition to a literary analysis paper and vocabulary, they also completed their research papers at the beginning of the second semester. The topics they chose were interesting and they really took pride in the papers they produced. Their efforts this year are to be commended. To end the year, they are enjoying a variety of classic novels as well as tackling some other literary genres.

This year's speech students are not only mastering the art of public speaking, but also learning the finer components of the communication process. Through a variety of class activities and mini speeches, the students are preparing for their formal presentations. Creative Writing students are spending the better part of the semester perfecting their craft and compiling their work in their portfolios. They will work with a variety of genres this semester, starting with poetry.

The old adage "Change is good" obviously rings true, as in the eyes of Mrs. Shoe, this has been one of the most productive and entertaining years of teaching thus far.



Senior Travis Grosserode reads to the afternoon preschool class as a part of Speech class.

TO CHECK YOUR LUNCH ACCOUNT ONLINE:

- ⇒ Go to the school website www.elgineagles.org
- ⇒ Click the "Lunch Account Balance" button on the right-hand side of the home page.
- ⇒ Enter your family ID number and PIN (If you do not know your family ID or PIN, please call the school)
- ⇒ Your lunch account balance will be shown. If you would like to see a detailed statement, scroll to the bottom of that page and click on a detailed version.

If you have any difficulties with access or questions about the program, please contact Anney Beckman 843-2455 or anney.beckman@elgineagles.org

Your child is absent?



1. If your child will not be in school, please call the school and let us know. We have voice mail so you can even call in the middle of the night when you are up with a sick child.
2. If your child is leaving during the day for an appt. send a note with your student letting the teacher know. Grades 7-12 should bring the note to the office in the morning before announcements are posted.

Classroom Snippets ...

Jr. High Students Race For Reading Success

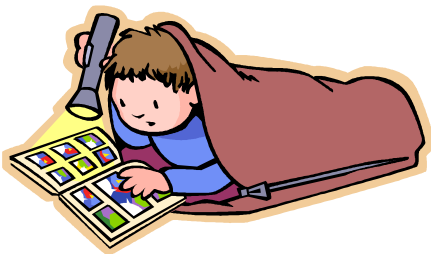


Before Christmas break, the junior high students were issued a challenge. The challenge involved a reading race

where the students must earn AR reading points. Each junior high student is challenged to meet a minimum individual goal of five points, matching an English assignment for the third quarter. As a team, they are given the task to race to 125 points. The first team to have all students meet their individual goal AND accumulate 125 points as a team wins. The winning team will be rewarded with a pizza party!

Good luck to Mr. Newcomb, Mr. Prater, and Mrs. Drueke's study halls!

Reading feeds the brain like pizza feeds the body!



6th Grade News

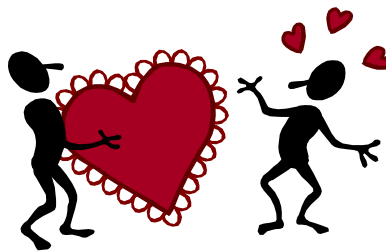
Congratulations to the following 6th graders for meeting their AR goal for the 2nd quarter: Adam D.; Tanner B.; Colby S.; and Cory R. Way to Go!

Wyatt R. left our class at the end of December and moved to Pierce. We wish him well in his new school.

Answer to 5th Grade Social Studies Tidbits from last month:
The American Revolution began.

Valentines for Veterans

The Second through Sixth Grade elementary Art students will be making Valentines for our hospitalized veterans. Creating the valentines will involve several skills. Students will learn how to make a pattern and how to correctly trace that pattern onto colored paper. We will practice how to correctly hold and use a scissors and how to apply glue. They will add a message to their heart and we will discuss safety in not giving out personal information to strangers. Students will use their zentangling skills to decorate the heart with pattern.



After their hearts are completed they will be sent off to the Veterans Hospital in Phoenix (Mrs. Heithoff's sister is a nurse there) to be distributed to the veterans.

Study Tips from the Resource Room

by: Kim Zwingman

Students, do not forget that Student-Led Conferences are right around the corner. Junior high and high school students, when you have some down time during study hall, you can be getting a good start on gathering your papers, making cover pages, making your table of contents, writing your welcome letter, thank-you letter, etc.

Getting a good start will only relieve your stress the closer conferences get. Good Luck!!

Parent's..... A Child's First Teacher

(from Book It)

What's your 2014 Reading Resolution? Don't have one? You should!



The best part about resolving to read more in 2014 is that you can do it as a family. Everyone has the same amount of hours in their day. Set aside just 20 minutes and by the end of the year, you and your family will have read the equivalent of about 10 days of reading! Resolve to read and you can spend the other 355 days on other resolutions. Happy New Year!

Tour of high school Math classes taught at Elgin Public Schools

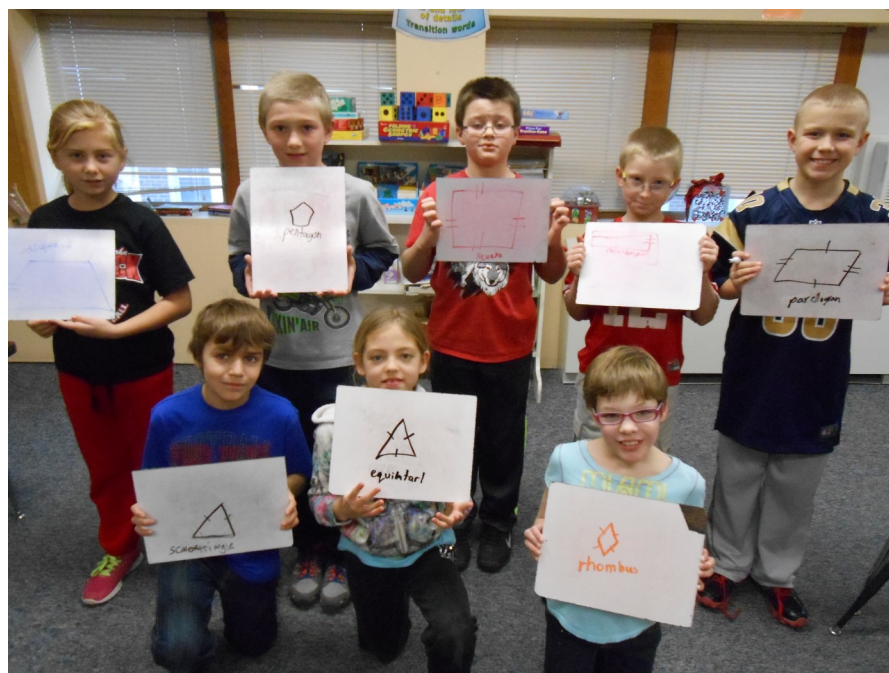
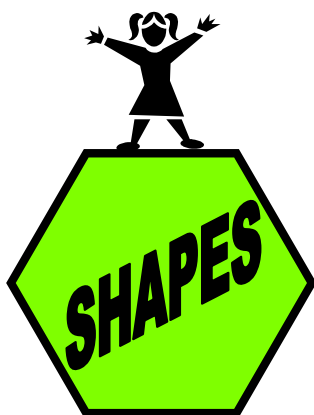
Algebra Two allows the student to extend the knowledge of operations on real numbers. They will solve equations and inequalities, using a variety of graphing techniques, and solve systems of linear equations. Students will apply functions and utilities problem solving techniques (very important). They will perform operations on rational expressions, simplify radical and quadratic function, and apply exponential and logarithmic functions. Students will also be introduced to conic sections, trigonometric functions, sequences and series.

We have 2 very important tests that we take in the spring for Juniors: ACT (college entrance test) and the NeSA (Nebraska State Assessment). In the first two years of NeSA, Elgin High Juniors have placed 5th and 3rd out of 249 schools in the STATE!!! It's a great achievement but every year we have to aim high to reach and maintain this goal. It takes lots of hard work to achieve this!!!!

100th Day of School



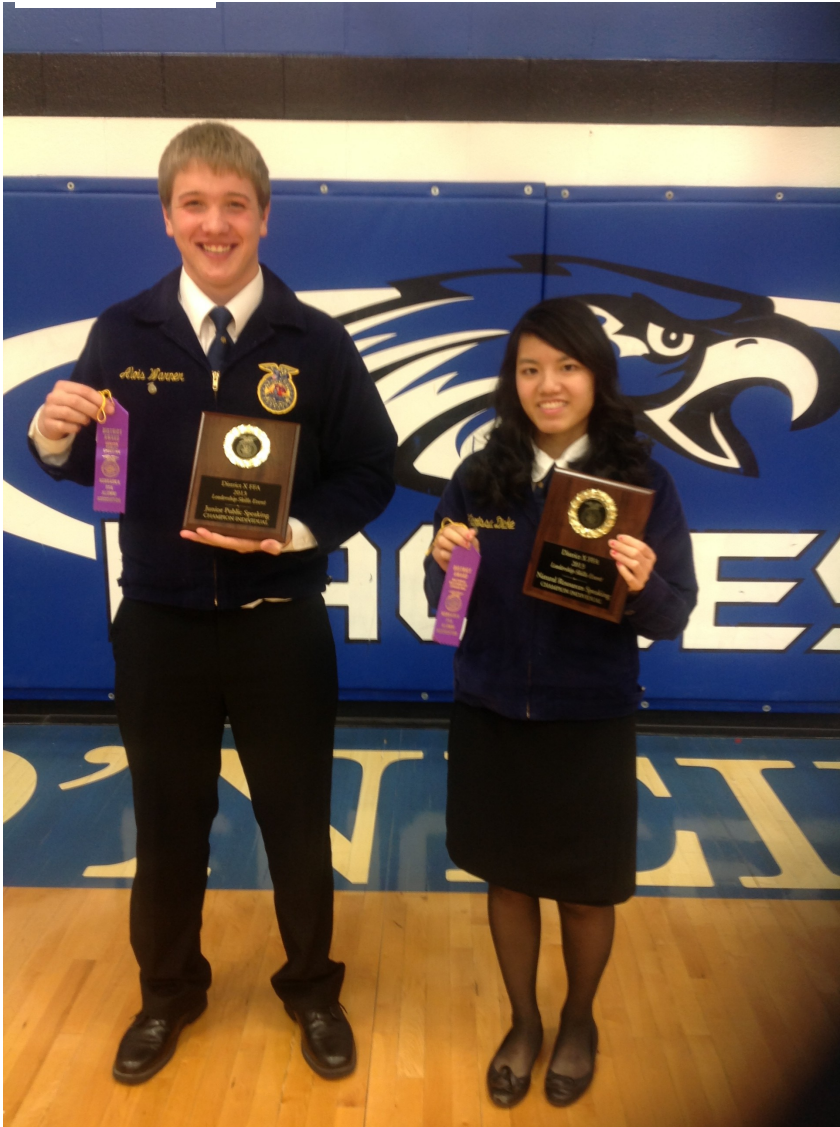
In preparation for their 100th day of school, the kindergarten and first grade students were given a homework assignment to create a picture out of the digits 1 0 0. Here are some of their creations displayed by: (l. to r.) Sonni Dishman, Jacorey Weidner, Izick Herbaugh, Grady Druke, and Jaiden Schrad.



Who knew shapes were so complicated? The fourth graders have been racking their brains to remember all the vocabulary in math class. Isosceles, vertices, perpendicular...what?! They're learning a lot about geometry, like the difference between a line segment and a ray. So much for squares and rectangles being the only 4-sided shapes! Now they know all about quadrilaterals and the other polygons, and that they can transform by sliding, flipping, and turning. Up next, measurement!



FFA Members Qualify for The Nebraska State FFA Convention



Congratulations to FFA members on a wonderful performance at the District X Leadership Skills Events (LSE's) on Monday in O'Neill, Ne. Despite the bitterly cold weather the members were ready to perform after the long Christmas break. Here are the results:

Karissa Dicka was Champion Natural Resource speaker with her speech on wind energy and **Alois Warner Jr.** Public Speaking Champion with his speech on Pork! Both will be competing at State FFA in April.

Alternates to State include Mallory Fangman in Job Interview and Dylan Widger in Jr. Public Speaking

Other top blues went to Brett Kinney - Cooperative Speaking(4th), Bailey Carpenter - Sr. Public Speaking(5th), Corin Pelster - Natural Resource Speaking (4th), Trey Baum - Job Interview (6th), Seth Schmacher and Jon Meis in Ag Demo(5th), Jr. Parli Pro team of Kelsey Welding, Eli Heilhecker, Taylor Sehi, Dylan Widger, Dylan Behnk, & Taven Cameron(top blue), and Liz Selting(10th) and Austin Miller(12th) in Creed Speaking.

Up next for the FFA is State Degree interviews and Proficiency Reviews in Stuart on February 5th.



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.

REMEMBER THE THREE KEYS TO PREVENTING ILLNESS:



1. Teach your child to wash his hands thoroughly and often and to use waterless hand cleanser when water isn't available.

2. Give him disposable tissues; remind him to use and discard them.

3. Discourage him from sharing food, plates, cups or utensils.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



All "A" Honor Roll

Elianne Heilhecker, Stephanie Bode, Bailey Carpenter, Lydia Behnk, Brett Kinney, Tanner Welding, Alois Warner and Kyle Heithoff



Superior Honor Roll

Liam Heithoff, Hunter Reestman, Ally Wemhoff, Bre Carr, Kira Widger, Kelsey Welding, Tera Henkenius, Victoriah Fangman, Allison Koenig, Hannah Kerkman, Hunter Thramer, Tyler Smith, Tiffany Vaughan, Madison Voborny, Ivy Prater



Honor Roll

William Miller, Anthony Getzfred, Katelyn Copeland, Jaime Hoefler, Paige Nichols, Destiny Francis, Abbigayle Couch, Garet Behnk, Anna Heilhecker, Taylor Sehi, Zoey Bergman, Morgan Carpenter, Christian Dunn, Kaylee Martinsen, Myranda Palmer, Taven Cameron, Dylan Behnk, Dylan Widger, Kaitlyn Polk, Ethan Fischer, Kelsey Shoemaker. Not Pictured Sharla Schindler

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



I don't know for sure; but I did not honestly think after 25 years in education, with 5 as a principal and 13 as a school superintendent, that I would find myself in Elgin, NE. I always knew I didn't want to move to a bigger school, as while there are more people to do the jobs one has to do at a small school, there is no greater place to make an over-all impact than a small school in a rural Nebraska town (my opinion). Surround yourself with good people that work hard and have similar views, values, expectations of kids, etc. and it's a great profession. Problem is as an administrator you're usually the one moving in looking for a "fit". The board convinced me to come as they felt it would be a good fit; I think they were right. Elgin is a great community. My family and I are happy to be Elgin"ites". Thank you to the board, staff, students, parents and patrons of district #18 for your support. We have made some tremendous changes in a short time and continue to strive to keep our students educated at a very high level and our facilities adequate to serve them and the Elgin community. Some bigger, some smaller, none better ---- it fits.

One of the most difficult and public decisions a Superintendent of schools makes is whether and when to have, not have, or dismiss school due to inclement weather. "Back in the day" it RARELY happened as everyone was VERY local, had places to stay or go in town if things got really bad or even stayed in town during the week should the weather be/look bad. In today's world that is not nearly as much the case. We have all kinds of people, driving their own vehicles at different ages and coming to school from all kinds of different directions. Buses are also traveling farther to pick up students. Please be aware that if school is not "called" or "let out early" and you do not want your student coming or remaining here that is YOUR DECISION and should you make it, their absences will NOT be held against them. In other words if we are having school in inclement weather and you disagree with that decision just let us know that you are keeping your children at home. Or if it occurs during the day and we do not let out, let us know you want them to come home or that you are coming to get them. It's not an easy "call" and I don't presume to make it, or want to make it for you. I try and do what's best and safest for the kids while at the same time making having and going to school a very important priority. If you have any questions about this or anything else regarding the school please feel free to call and ask anytime.....

For the latest in news, check out our website: www.elgineagles.org



Celebrating 125 years of faith, family and friends.

Elgin's Q125 Celebration — 2014
June 20, 21, and 22

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 399
Elgin, NE 68636

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #4
Elgin, NE 68636

POSTAL PATRON