



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
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Volume XXXI, Issue 7

February, 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER



Feb. 1
NO SCHOOL



Feb. 9
Lifetouch
Spring
Pictures



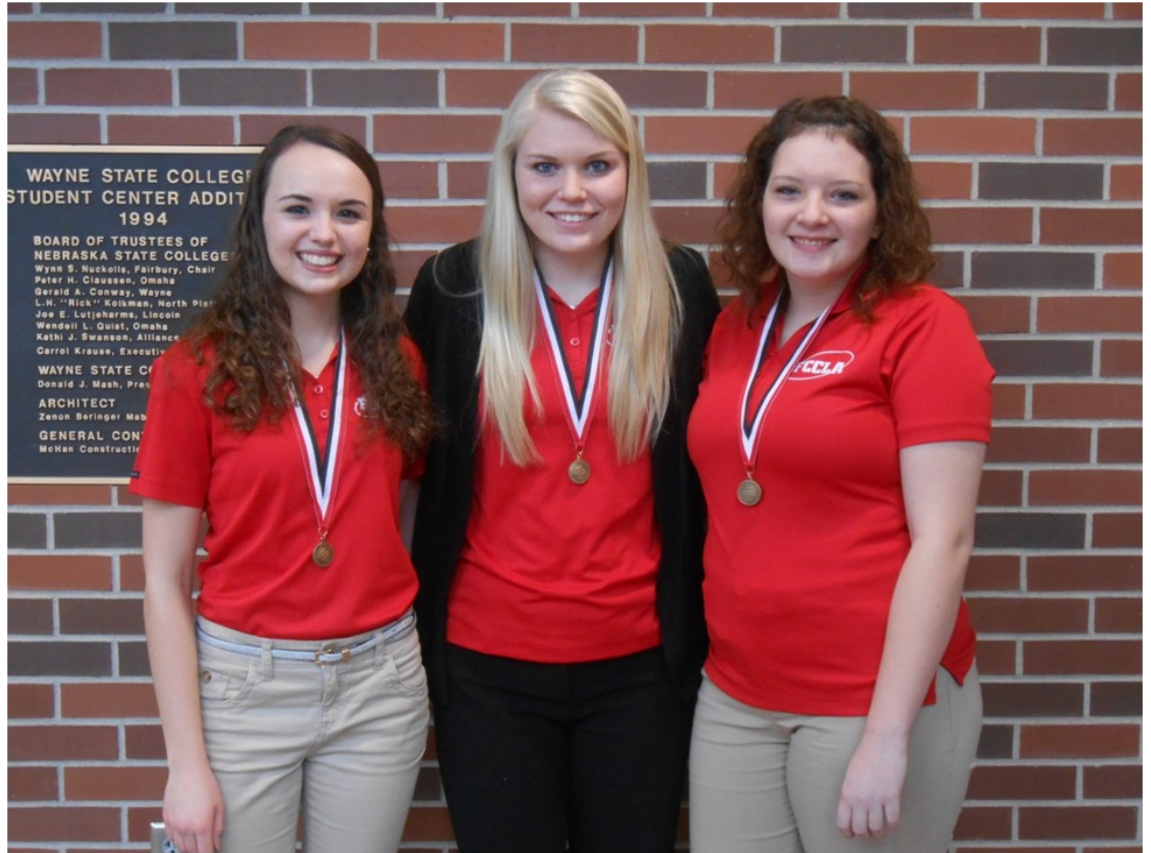
Feb. 10
School Board
Mtg. 7:30 p.m.
in ITV room



Feb. 19
NO SCHOOL

STAR COMPETITORS RECEIVE GOLD

From Mrs. Bode



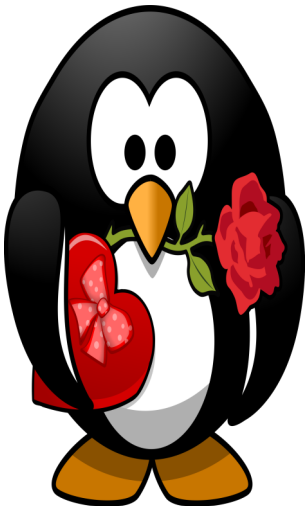
Shown with their medals are (l. to r.) Jaime Hoefler, Taya Voborny, & Paige Nichols

Three members of the Elgin FCCLA Chapter competed in the District 8 STAR competition held at Wayne State College on Wednesday, January 20th. Participating in the STAR competition were Taya Voborny, Jaime Hoefler, and Paige Nichols. Dylan Widger, District 8 President, served as a judge for several of the events and assisted with the awards ceremony. Receiving a gold medal in National Programs in Action and qualifying for state was Taya Voborny. Also earning a top gold in Illustrated Talks Sr. was Jaime Hoefler and Paige Nichols. They will also represent Elgin FCCLA and District 8 at the state competition held in April in conjunction with the State Leadership Conference.

For the latest in news, check out our website:

www.elgineagles.org

Or follow us on Twitter #elginpublic



Magazines Are Now Online!

From Mrs. Borer



The fourth graders have been reading their Scholastic magazine on the iPads. They can also watch videos about the articles. Pictured is Brian Heithoff watching a video on how apes are more like humans than we had originally thought.

 ** 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 **
 ** you discretion. Just let the school know. **



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.

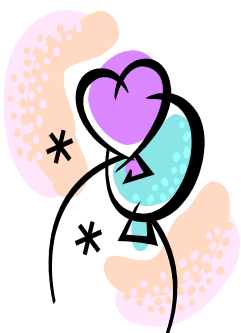


www.preventing crime.ca/THINK

FCCLA CandyGrams For Sale

Large 18" Mylar balloon w/bag of mini candy—\$6.00

*Small 9" Mylar balloon on a stick
 with small candy bar—\$4.00*



Kinds of candy available:

Snickers, Reeses, Skittles, Nibs,
 Plain or Peanut M & M's, Hugs & Kisses, Starbursts
 Place your order by February 11th with any FCCLA member or
 call the school 843-2455.

Deliveries will be made on February 12th.
 Payment must accompany your order.
 Order forms are available on the website.

Cool Cats In Hats!

From Mrs. Eisenhauer



"Cool Cats in Hats!" The 3rd graders celebrated their class points reward by wearing a hat in class!

Writing Assessment Preparation

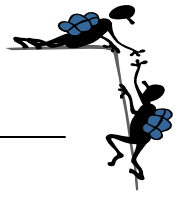
From Mrs. Druke



Since the beginning of the year, the eighth graders have been perfecting their descriptive writing skills. They have written several five paragraph essays on descriptive topics from their favorite season to their most prized possession, and, most recently, their dream house. Each of these essays took them through the steps of the writing process and incorporated the Six Traits of Writing, which is what they will be evaluated on for the upcoming statewide assessment. We took a break from writing for a few days to review all of those strategies this past week. The eighth graders will be completing this assessment on January 26. Give it your all, Eighth Graders!

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 (typically between March 1 and April 1) as some financial aid is awarded first-come, first-served. Check with your college(s) to learn their priority date.

Follow these steps to complete the FAFSA:

Create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) for you and one for a parent at fsaid.ed.gov. You'll use the ID to access the FAFSA and other Federal Student Aid websites, and as your electronic signature for the FAFSA.

Complete your taxes early as the FAFSA requires current tax information. Within three weeks after you and your parents file your tax forms, your IRS data should be available to retrieve and transfer into your FAFSA through the [IRS Data Retrieval](#) process (available as of February 7, 2016).

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

- 2015 federal income tax forms and, if applicable, Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)
- 2015 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.)
- 2015 child support (paid and/or received)
- 2015 Workers' Compensation
- Other untaxed income in 2015 such as housing/food/ living allowances for military and clergy
- Alien Registration Number for eligible non-citizen

Be prepared to indicate on the FAFSA if, during 2015, you or anyone in your household received Supplemental Security Income, SNAP, TANF, Free or Reduced Price Lunch, and/or WIC.

Complete the FAFSA at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov). The colleges you list on the application should receive the results within 48 hours.

If you're filing the FAFSA for the first time and want **free** help, call the EducationQuest location nearest you to set up an appointment: Omaha – 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745, Kearney – 800.666.3721, or Scottsbluff – 800.303.3745, ext. 6654.

Check out these **free** FAFSA tools

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

College Funding Estimator – estimates your FAFSA results

FSA ID Video – shows you how to create an FSA ID

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



Apply for EducationQuest's Scavenger Hunt Scholarship!

Apply by **March 31** for EducationQuest's *Scavenger Hunt Scholarship*. You could earn \$500 toward your college education! Here's how it works:

1. If you haven't already, complete a profile in [ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org](#). *ScholarshipQuest* is a scholarship search tool with over 2,000 Nebraska-based awards.
2. If you are a Nebraska resident in grades 9-12, you will see the *EducationQuest Scavenger Hunt Scholarship* as one of the scholarships that will appear on your results page.
3. "Scavenge" around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions in a survey.
4. EducationQuest will draw a winner from those who answer all questions correctly. The winner will receive \$500 to invest in a NEST 529 College Savings Plan.

February "To Do" List

Seniors:

- ___ Complete student and parent 2015 tax returns.
- ___ Create an FSA ID for you and one for a parent at fsaid.ed.gov.
- ___ Complete the FAFSA at fafsa.gov.
- ___ Continue to apply for scholarships.

Juniors:

- ___ [Register](#) by February 5 for the March 5 SAT.
- ___ [Register](#) by March 4 for the April 9 ACT.

Meet Our Student Teacher

From Mrs. Tisthammer



Hello! My name is Kelli Tisthammer and I will be student teaching in the 3rd grade classroom this year with Krista Eisenhauer. I live on a farm North of Albion with my husband and our dog Dixie. I grew up on a farm near Petersburg so I am definitely not too far from home. I will graduate from Wayne State College this spring with my Bachelor Degree in elementary education. I am super excited to be in the classroom this year and can't wait for all the learning opportunities to come.

Creative Writing Students Tackle Hectic Schedule

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn

While the end of first semester signaled the conclusion of one section of speech class, it also ushered in a brand new section of Creative Writing.

Though this particular class has always been less than typical, this year's group is even more unique. The class consists of six students. Three are enrolled five days a week, one is enrolled three days a week, and two are enrolled two days a week.

With this crazy of a schedule, the organizational skills of the teacher and the students are being severely tested. So far, they all seem to be winning the battle.

Other than simply "writing creatively," the students focus on different types of writing and characteristics of impressive writing in order to hone their skills. Daily, the students journal, complete writing exercises, and create their own masterpieces. These drafts are edited, revised, published, and eventually filed away in their Creative Writing portfolios.

Though the class is a new adventure each and every day, some students have already established some opinions of the course:

"I enjoy the Creative Writing class environment; it is very upbeat and it has helped me open up more."

"Creative Writing helps me release all my jumbled up thoughts that I've had throughout the week and allows me to put them into words, whether that be by poetry, a fun journal, or other writing activity."

"Creative Writing is one of the best classes I've had. It has allowed me to be able to help express myself, which is amazing."

"I enjoy Creative Writing because it presents a challenge with few guidelines, so I'm free to explore different ways of transferring my thoughts into words and look at them in different formats."



Vika Huang, Kenny Bush, and Katie Copeland are some of the students in Creative Writing class.

Classroom Snippets ...

Art

From Mrs. Rita Heithoff

Projects Abound



The Art students have had a busy start to second semester. Elementary began the year with radial designs a.k.a. snowflakes. After that the older students moved onto printmaking while the younger students are practicing their valentine making skills. 7th grade completed paper mache masks and are beginning 3-D printmaking. High school students continue to work on individual projects. Stay tuned to the school webpage for more news about Art and photos of their work.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Title 1 Becomes Intervention Time

Most of you know Mrs. Thiele as the Title 1 teacher; however the school has changed a few things and now she is the Intervention teacher. Students still receive help with any subject but the main goal is to do reading or math interventions to help the students succeed in the regular classroom. A little extra practice never hurts anyone!

From Mrs. Zwingman

Disciplining Children with Disabilities:

As one of my friends is nearing the birth of her first child, she is taking baptism classes in preparation. From this class, she received the book, *Sharing the Faith with Your Child: From Birth to Age Four*. She shared an interesting

passage she came across regarding the discipline of a child with disabilities.

According to Chandler, Burney, and Leatherman



SOUND DISCIPLINE

(2006), the following was shared:

A disabled child's behavior may be blamed on his disability when, in fact, it is just a normal stage of development or the result of a lack of discipline.

Sometimes parents feel sorry for their child or assume he cannot learn acceptable behavior. Such an attitude can *magnify* the child's problems and affect his development more than the disability itself. (p. 93)

Chandler, P., Burney, J., & Leatherman, M.K. (2006, August). *Sharing the faith with your child:*

From birth to age four. Liquori, MO: Liquori Publications.

Learning Language Through Culture

From Mrs. Klein

One of the golden rules of learning a new language is that you cannot learn a language without learning about the culture of that language, as well.

With that in mind, my Spanish 1 students completed a web quest, Venn diagram, report and presentation on our vocabulary theme: food. The culture aspect was comparing



Spanish, Mexican and United States cuisines and food "traditions." The students did a great job, and some were given the opportunity to present their finding to the school board at the January meeting.

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.

Follow Us On Twitter



Elgin Public School is now on Twitter. This is a good source of information in real time. What is the score of the ballgame? How was the concert?

What are students learning in school today?

Follow us on Twitter to find out. @elginpublic #elginpublic If you mention us in a tweet, we might retweet your information.

You don't have a Twitter account? Then check out the space at the bottom of our website. The twitter feed is posted there to keep you up to date. www.elgineagles.org

Join us!

DO IT NOW!

**Sometimes "later"
Becomes "never"!**

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

Second Grade Writers

From Mrs. Beckman



The second graders are writing paragraphs again. Now they are choosing their own topics. These are a few that have been written. Watch future newsletters for more paragraphs.

Jonathan Leistman

Have you been to Colorado? I am going to tell you about when I went to Colorado. We went there the long way. Sometimes we take the short way. When we get there I play football with my grandpa. We play until we want to go inside. In the morning sometimes we go to the donut factory. It was fun in Colorado because I go to spend time with my family.

Taytumn Clouse

Have you ever trained a hunting dog? I have a hunting dog. I like to play fetch with my hunting dog. It is fun to play fetch with my hunting dog. It is fun to watch her run and jump. My hunting dog's name is Emma Lou, sometimes we call her Emma. I have a trainer named Rusty. He has many hunting dogs. I'm glad we have a hunting dog.

Kayton Zwingman

Do you like sleepovers? I love sleepovers. I had my sleep over with Kierstyn and Kyndal. We played outside in the snow. We stayed up until 2:30 A.M. One time I think we even stayed up a little longer. They came to my house. I had a lot of fun at the sleep over.

Aiden Chiles

What is long and black? I'm going to tell you about a black mamba snake. Its venom is very strong. The black mamba is faster than a rabbit. It slithers on the ground and grass. It uses its tongue to smell its prey. It has a big long body and is very scary. You do not want this animal for a pet.

Jacorey Weidner

What do you want to do Kerra? Play dates are fun to do. The play date was at my cousin's house. Kerra and I played tag and horses outside. Then we went inside and watched movies. We watched Monster High, Dora, and Sponge Bob Out of Water. Then we played outside again. We played Monster High and Sponge Bob Out of Water. Kerra wanted to be Sponge Bob and I played Sandy the scroll. Back inside we watched many movies. Then we played with my dog. I went home on Sunday.



*"Always be yourself, express yourself,
have faith in yourself.
Do not go out and look for a successful
personality and duplicate it"*

Bruce Lee



**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.

Dates to Remember:

March 8th—Science Fair

March 17th—Student-led
conferences

April 2nd—Jr./Sr. Prom

May 14th—Graduation

May 19th—Last Day of School

100TH DAY OF SCHOOL



On January 22, 2016 the Kindergarten and First Grade celebrated the 100th day of school. They did many activities using the number 100. These are the hats they made for the day.

1st SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

All "A" Honor Roll

Junior High – Skylar Reestman and Kane VonBonn

High School – Hunter Reestman, Lydia Behnk, Elianne Heilhecker, Ingvild Bekkeseth and Alois Warner

Superior Honor Roll

Junior High- Theanna Dunn, Claire Kerkman and Araceli Palmer

High School- Allyson Wemhoff, Kira Widger, Liam Heithoff, Katelyn Copeland, Kelsey Welding, Destiny Francis, Vika Huang, Kaitlyn Polk and Tiarra Thramer

Honor Roll

Junior High – Joseph Getzfred, Adam Dreger and Wyatt Renner

High School- Garet Behnk, Dayna Bousquet, Breanna Carr, Anna Heilhecker, Emma Kerkman, Vada Kruse, Shelby Dohmen, Myranda Palmer, Kenneth Bush, Jaime Hofer, Paige Nichols, Taylor Sehi, Baylee Wemhoff, Dylan Behnk and Morgan Carpenter

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.

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.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Second Quarter Honors

CONGRATS TO THE ALL "A" HONOR ROLL

Hunter Reestman, Alois Warner, Ingrid Bekkeseth, Lydia Behnk, Elianne Heilhecker, Kane VonBonn (Not Pictured)



CONGRATS TO THE SUPERIOR HONOR ROLL

(front row) Destiny Francis, Allyson Wemhoff, Araceli Palmer, Skylar Reestman, Claire Kerkman, Theanna Dunn

(back row) Dylan Behnk, Morgan Carpenter, Tiarra Thramer, Kaitlyn Polk, Kelsey Welding, Kira Widger and Katelyn Copeland (Not Pictured)



CONGRATS TO THE HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

(front row) Vada Kruse, Baylee Wemhoff, Emma Kerkman, Anna Heilhecker, Breanna Carr, Dayna Bousquet, Joseph Getzfred, Jaime Hoefer (middle row) Shelby Dohmen, Myranda Palmer, Mary Nichols, Vika Huang, Adam Dreger, Wyatt Renner, Paige Nichols (back row) Leslie Linares, Ashton Evans, Garet Behnk, Kenneth Bush, Liam Heithoff, Zoey Bergman and Dylan Widger

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



With the New Year comes continued work at educating our students to be successful in school, activities and eventually college, a trade or vocation and life in general. Some of the hardest lessons and things to learn in this day and age have as much to do with life and dealing with others, as they do with school. Though knowledge is power and always what we want to convey, working with and dealing with others is important as well.

With social media and technology, kids NEVER are "out of touch" with each other, the world, or events happening. This means they NEVER are out of touch with a bully, a hurtful situation, the nightly news or any negative situations. This to me reinforces the need for continual positive messages, continually finding the silver lining in things, pushing the concept that we all fail to succeed and that life is full of positive and wonderful events, times and things. Many times any events that we dealt with back in the day, are in this day and age magnified exponentially due to being inter-connected via technology. It is even MORE important in this environment to teach our youth about not always believing what you see or hear, passing on things you haven't verified and being an educated skeptic. It used to be that decision-making process and the repercussions of passing on information or questioning things used to take days or weeks; now it happens with the click of a button. It's a different world and we have to prepare our children for that world; not the one we grew up in.

At the Elgin Public Schools we are giving them that technology, that information, that experience and hopefully the continued quality education and ethical tools to use it appropriately. To all our staff and students I would like to say thank you for all you do in the way of education, but also in the way you accept, treat, look out for and learn with others. GO EAGLES!!!



For the latest in news, check out our website:
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Or Follow us on Twitter [#elginpublic](https://twitter.com/elginpublic)



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