



EAGLE UPDATE

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Volume XXIX, Issue 6

January, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER



Jan. 6
School Resumes



Jan. 9
School Board Mtg. 7:30
p.m. in ITV Room



Jan. 11
WR Meet at EPS
10:00 a.m.



Jan. 16
NO SCHOOL
Teacher Inservice



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Preparing the shoeboxes for delivery are: Jordan Dietz, Brett Kinney, Tanner Welding, and Travis Grosserode.

Elgin FFA members brought in about 40 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child program. The shoe boxes were full of gifts for children and were dropped off at a Norfolk location before Thanksgiving and sent to children around the world in time for Christmas. Thank you to all the members and their parents for their generosity! And thanks to Lori Widger for dropping the boxes off!



7th Graders Collect The Most

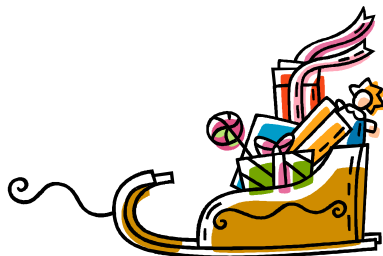


7th graders contributed the most in paper products for the food pantry this month. Nice Job, 7th graders!

Check our website for the most current news and calendar: www.elgineagles.org

FCCLA BUSY WITH ACTIVITIES

The Elgin FCCLA Chapter has a sleigh full of activities planned for the month of December. Every year we volunteer as Santa's helpers at Kids shopping night. It is a festive atmosphere and the FCCLA elves have a great time helping the kids. Bring your kids down to the KC Hall to see Santa Clause and our elves. The fun starts right after school. Santa usually arrives around 6:00P.M. This is held on December 4.



Our Chapter decided to try something new this holiday season and adopt a family. Our family consists of a single mom with three small children. We want to help her give her children a Christmas they will remember forever. All of our members signed up to donate gifts for the entire family. The items will be collected and sent by December 9. This is a fun and generous way for us to give back. As "family" is a central focus of the FCCLA organization, we want to help to keep families together anyway we can.

The National Cluster meeting was held in Omaha November 22-23. We were lucky to have sixteen members attend this national event. We will be hosting a soup supper to help with our expenses from the trip. This will be held during the basketball game on December 14.

FCCLA members will also be offering babysitting for children during the Christmas concert on December 16. This will give parents and grandparents the chance to relax and enjoy the show. Our members will have a great time and make the night enjoyable for your children as well!



Part of a tradition we have going is a Traveling Supper with Secret Santa. This is a fun bonding experience for everyone in our chapter. Secret Santa takes place the last week before we leave for vacation. Santa is then revealed during the gift exchange at the Traveling Supper. This night starts with the first house with

appetizers, then move on to the next house with salads, next house we eat the main course, and finally we have our last house with games and presents. The Traveling Supper is always a fun and festive time filled with holiday spirit! It takes place on December 20.

By Stephanie Bode

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.

Wolfpack Volleyball Wrap-up



Volleyball Letterwinners:

Ivy Prater
Stephanie Bode
Madi Voborny
Corin Pelster
Mallory Fangman
Jenna Parks
Baylee Wemhoff
Liz Selting
Nicole Beckman
Taylor Schumacher

Managers:

Grace Henn
Emma Kerkman
Anna Heilhecker
Nicki Payne
Ally Wemhoff

Participants:

Kayla Nelson
Baylie Schiltmeyer
Sharla Schindler
Hayley Stamp
Jill Schindler
Terri Seier
Whitney Walker
Karissa Dicke
Lexie Heithoff
Katie Polk
Jordan Mescher
Amy Nelson
Taya Voborny
Kelsey Welding
Paige Nichols
Avenley Short
Jaime Hoefler
Taylor Sehi
Gracie Bullock
Emily Seier
Shantel Preister

Area Awards

Lincoln Journal Star: Honorable Mention to Jenna Parks

Niobrara Valley Conference Awards: Honorable Mention to Liz Selting & Mallory Fangman and Jenna Parks made 2nd Team

Omaha World Herald: Honorable Mention to Jenna Parks, Liz Selting, & Mallory Fangman

Team Voted Awards

Hustle Award

Varsity: Jenna Parks, JV: Jordan Mescher, C-team: Taylor Sehi

Best Defensive Player

Varsity: Mallory Fangman, JV Sharla Schindler, C-Team: Paige Nichols

Best Offensive Player

Varsity: Liz Selting, JV: Terri Seier, C-Team: Amy Nelson

Most improved

Varsity: Taylor Schumacher, JV: Kaylay Nelson, C-Team: Karissa Dicke, Shantel Preister, & Avenley Short

Most Valuable Player

Varsity: Jenna Parks, JV: Sharla Schindler, C-Team: Amy Nelson

Wolfpack Award

Varsity: Ivy Prater, JV: Baylie Schiltmeyer, C-Team: Avenley Short

Wolfpack Volleyball Records broken

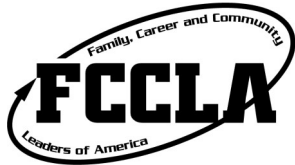
Liz Selting tied for Most Ace serves in a game at 6 in 1 game

Liz Selting Most Ace Serves in a Season with 36

Baylee Wemhoff Most Sets in a Game with 66

Jenna Parks Most Sets in a Career with 1,889

Mallory Fangman Most Digs in a Game with 28



Elgin FCCLA Chapter Members Attend 2013 National Cluster Meeting

16 Members of the Elgin FCCLA Chapter attended the annual National Cluster Meeting in Omaha Nebraska on November 22-23 2013. The theme for the 2013 conference was Exceeding Expectations With FCCLA. On Friday members attended the opening general session. Ashley Rhodes-Courter presented the keynote address, "Three Little Words: Turning Pain into Power". Ms. Rodes-Courter spent over 10 years in foster care with 14 different placement homes before being adopted at the age of twelve. She encourages audiences to embrace their differences and turn their pain into power.

On Saturday members also attended small group sessions including: Autism Speaks; "Will you listen?", Being in the Public Eye, Can You Get Hooked on FCCLA?, Exceeding Expectations: From Reading Books to Writing Them, FACS Knowledge Bowl, How YOU Can Make a Difference, and Reflect Your Potential. All small sessions encouraged leaders to spread the red and FCCLA's red jacket swag. FCCLA Members also attended two larger sessions entitled: Leaving a Legacy and Walk a Mile. All the members reunited once more for the closing general session. The keynote address speaker was Johan Khalilian. Mr. Klalilian believes we all have a little bit of crazy in us that is waiting to be unleashed. He motivates young people to move past reality and begin to dream and create even the craziest of possibilities for their lives and the world around them.

Saturday afternoon Elgin FCCLA Members visited the Henry Doorley Zoo during their down time between sessions. The chilling temperatures, however, didn't damper the spirits of the eager young leaders.



Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode

Featured EducationQuest Tool

College Funding Estimator provides early awareness of EFC

The [College Funding Estimator](#) calculates the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is the estimated amount the federal government believes a family can pay toward college for one academic year. By using the *Estimator*, a family can gain an early awareness of their EFC before they file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

The *Estimator* asks the same questions and uses the same calculation as the FAFSA, so the results can help students plan financially for college and determine if they qualify for need-based financial aid including need-based scholarships. This tool is helpful for parents with sophomores, juniors and seniors as they prepare for college expenses.

Activities Resume helps students track extracurricular activities throughout high school

The [Activities Resume](#) allows students to create a resume of their accomplishments, which they can use when applying to college, submitting scholarship applications, or job searching. With this activity, students will learn how to track activities throughout middle and high school – and have the information readily available by simply logging back into their account. An *Activities Resume* should include, but is not limited to, school clubs and activities, awards, recognition and honors, volunteer work, mentoring, shadowing, and part-time jobs.

NEW JUNIOR HIGH STUDY HALLS



In the past month the Junior High students have been moved to their own study halls. It appears that it has been a good move for them. They are better able to focus on the work they need to complete and receive help on assignments.

THE COMPETITION IS ON FOR THIRD QUARTER. The junior high study halls will be competing for a pizza party by earning reading points. The first study hall to reach 125 reading points will be treated to a pizza party. There is no need to wait until we return after the Christmas break to get started. Encourage your student to read over the break and take their first quiz as soon as they come back.

Student Council Elves Bring Holiday Spirit to EPS

by Mrs. Shoe

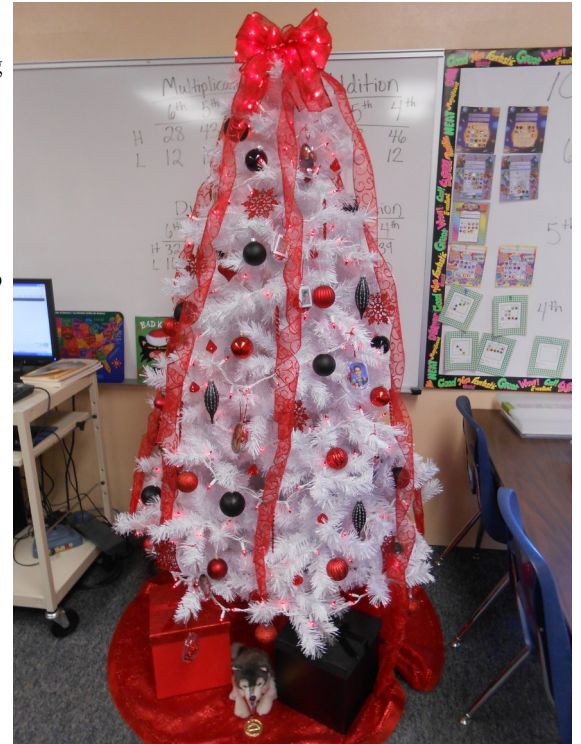


Mrs. Eisenhower's 3rd grade Tree

From about Thanksgiving on, one thought is on the minds of EPS students (and probably staff, as well) . . . Christmas break. However, this year, the EPS Student Council has given students a little more to look forward to than just a long winter's vacation.

After a fun-filled Homecoming, a successful penny war, and the first annual pumpkin decorating contest, the group decided they wanted to "Deck the Halls" of EPS for Christmas and do what they could to help out those less fortunate during the holiday season.

The elementary classrooms were invited to partake in a tree decorating



Mrs. Borer's 4th grade Tree

contest, while 7-12 students decorated their study hall/classroom doors.

Placing first in the tree division was Mrs. Borer and the fourth graders. Second place went to Mrs. Eisenhower and the third grade students. Mrs. Shoe's study hall captured first place in the door category, and second place went to Mr. Mlinar's study hall.

In addition to the contests, the student council put up a campus Christmas tree outside the gym doors and invited all of EPS to help decorate.

The group also organized a paper product drive to benefit the food pantry. EPS students were asked to donate paper plates, cups, napkins, toilet paper, paper towels, etc. just in time for the holidays. Donations were collected the week of December 9-13. The seventh grade students amassed the most items, and the Seniors came in a close second.

Finally, student council members purchased toys to donate to those in need this Christmas.

Members of this year's student council are Hunter Thrasher, Madison Voborny, Hayley Stamp, Tyler Smith, Dylan Widger, Stevey Hatch, Paige Nichols, and Kenny Bush. The group is sponsored this year by Mrs. Klein and Mrs. Shoe.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make our activities successful this year!

Happy Holidays from the EPS Student Council!



Mrs. Shumake-Henn's Door



Mr. Mlinar's Door

Hooray for Timed Tests!



Congratulations to the Second Grade Class! They have all passed their addition timed tests this semester. In January we will start subtraction timed tests.

Preschool Happenings

The preschoolers have their Christmas tree decorated, letters to Santa written and are patiently waiting for Santa to arrive. Pictured here are the Preschoolers with the tree they decorated at school.



The 4 year olds are pictured with Michael Davis who volunteers his time each week. We are very grateful for the time he spent with them.

Classroom Snippets . . .

Kindergarten Readers!

Two kindergarten Reading Mastery groups have started reading from their books. That's a very exciting thing to work for and achieve. The third group is close behind. Students have been practicing word lists and reading extra booklets for homework and are making great strides at becoming fluent readers. Our DiBELS scores for reading are also very encouraging. In math we are working on identifying, reading, and writing the numbers to 31.

Merry Christmas wishes to everyone!



bags. 3-6 grades are busy on their printmaking designs. Next semester they will start with snowflakes before finishing up their clay designs. After those projects they will be moving onto Q125 drawings.



7th Grade Art has been working on color and drawing and painting still life designs while the high school students work independently on projects of their choosing.

Wrapping up second quarter

Along with doing winter DIBELS testing and rehearsing extra hard for the music concert, students have been finishing up many things in fourth grade. They have finished reading Charlotte's Web by E.B. White. They learned all about verbs in English. In Math, they just completed the chapter on decimals. It has been a very busy quarter! In January they will be preparing for the NeSA Writing test. The window opens January 20th so we don't have much time left!



Finance Fun

Personal Finance students have been learning about many "real-world" topics this semester. Students have been introduced to taxes, insurance, investments, and more! Most importantly, Personal Finance class stresses the importance of saving at an early age. With the



knowledge students have gained from class, I hope they will make "money-wise" decisions in the future. Smart money decisions today will keep the debt-man away!

Study Tips from the Resource Room

by: Kim Zwingman

Not that all students may do this, but over the years, I have noticed many students that have good grades and decide to it easy the last week of a quarter. This is not sometimes a wise choice as it may put the student on the down/failing list, or cost them place on honor roll. FINISH STRONG!

Art Projects

Check out the webpage to see the latest creations by the Art students. Kindergarten, First and Second grades have finished their turkeys and gift

Feliz Navidad y un Prospero Año

It is hard to believe that the end of the semester has arrived. After dealing with a lot of change, my classes can look back at what they've accomplished and be proud.

Spanish 3 and 4 not only did extensive grammar review, but they also completed a Spanish

History unit and studied new vocabulary. Spanish 1 and 2 continued learning new grammar and vocabulary and also read the acclaimed Chicano novel **The House on Mango Street** by Sandra Cisneros and completed many projects to accompany it. The Spanish 2 class also took a closer look at the issue of immigration and human trafficking. All in all, it was a very educational semester, even with the Spanish teacher home on maternity leave for much of it!



Child Development

By Stephanie Bode

The month of December was filled with learning in Child Development. The Child Development class focused on Infancy. Infancy takes place between birth and one year. We studied the physical characteristics, social and emotional development, and intellectual development that takes place. Newborn babies are born with amazing capabilities and by the end of the first year have reached milestones that have transformed them into little human beings. This information will be helpful in our futures. After learning the basic facts about all ages, we scheduled days to observe children. We finished up the semester with a field trip down to the Park Center Daycare, baby day, and toddler day.



Yearbook Prepares

The Yearbook students are busy gathering pictures and write-ups for their pages. This year's theme is being tied into the Q125. Our book is called "Flashback". We will be highlighting pictures from the seniors' kindergarten year as well as pictures from older yearbooks. Our school's history will be incorporated into the book as well. One highlight is a postcard Anney Beckman was able to purchase of our school in 1912 from Ebay when K-12 was housed in one building.

Don't forget to purchase your yearbook this spring for a lifetime of memories!



Celebrating 125 years of faith, family and friends.

AG STUDENTS ATTEND UNL CAREER DAY



Jordan Dietz displays the pallid sturgeon.

Ag students from Companion Animals and Natural Resources took part of UNL's Career Day on East Campus Wednesday, December 4th. Despite the cold, blustery weather, Bailey Carpenter, Ethan Fischer, Travis Grosserode, and Jordan Dietz were ready to head out at 6:30am.

The focus of the day was on the companion animal and natural resource programs offered at CASNR (College of Agriculture Science and Natural Resources). In the morning the students took a tour of the animal science department and facilities and in the afternoon they headed over to Hardin Hall which houses most of the natural resource classrooms and lab. They listened to professors talk about some of their classes, graduate and PhD students talk about their research projects, and senior students talk about what classes they have taken to complete their degree. Over lunch a panel of CASNR alumni talked about how their time spent at UNL helped them achieve their dream job. A young lady talked about her job as an education specialist with the Nebraska Game and Parks and a gentlemen described his job as a "fisheries" specialist with the Nebraska Game and Parks. Another young lady described her advancement at the Henry Doorly Zoo. All three, shared highlights of their job and gave advice to the students on career prep.

The day ended with two Senior UNL students showing pictures and telling about different internships and work experiences they have had while in college and how those experiences will help them achieve their dream job and be career ready!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2014! Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2014:

- Jamie- I am going to improve my cursive handwriting.
- David- I am going to work hard in school and have NO redo's in Reading Mastery.
- Kadance- I am going to improve my handwriting.
- William- I am going to work hard on multiplication timed tests and memorizing the facts.
- Corbin- I will do better in Social Studies by learning all of the states.
- Devin- I am going to work hard on multiplication timed tests.
- Erica- I am going to work harder to pass all of my subtraction timed tests.
- Grace- I will work hard on all subjects and take my time on assignments.
- Camryn- I am going to improve my handwriting.
- Trenton- I am going to try to pass all of my multiplication timed tests.
- Violet- I am going to work hard to get good grades likes and A's and B's.
- Jackson- I am going to work hard on every subject.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2014!
Mrs. Eisenhower and the third graders

*"I want every day to be a fresh start on expanding what is possible."
— Oprah Winfrey*

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.

Christmas Around the World



The first graders had an opportunity to see how other countries celebrate Christmas. With passports in their hands, the first graders set out for a “Christmas Around the World” trip. Their journey took them to the countries of Mexico, France, Germany and Italy where they learned their customs and traditions. They returned home just in time for their own Christmas celebrations.



Science Fair Slated

Third quarter we will be starting science fair projects. All students in grades 7-12 that are currently taking a science class will be doing a science fair project throughout third quarter. We will be using the scientific method to find a purpose, research our topic, make a hypothesis, experiment, analyze and draw a conclusion. If you have a child in a 7-12 science class, be asking them to think of a topic that is related to their current class they are in. Some grade level will be allowed to have partners, however, do to the opportunities to continue after the school science fair, some students will be asked to work on their own.

The school wide science fair will be held at the end of 3rd Quarter. It will be located in the main gym on March 11th from 7:00pm until 9:00pm. This is a chance for parents and other community members to come and see all the hard work students put in to their science projects. At this time, we will have judges that will score students projects similar to how they will be scored at a regional science fair. Those students that have excelled will be chosen to attend the Northeast Nebraska NJAS Science Fair at Wayne State College on March 28th. Further opportunities will still be available for students who excel here as well.



Be checking the website for further updates about science fair.

Seventh Graders Use Online Research Tool

We live in a world where information is literally at our fingertips. Information can be discovered by Googling almost anything. However, online sources can't always be trusted, nor is the information always reliable. The seventh grade English students have been learning to use a reliable online encyclopedia that is free to all our students through the ESU. Not only does it offer the traditional encyclopedia articles, but it also offers timelines, videos, charts, and even a way for students to organize and cite all formats of resources. Because of its three levels, this really is a tool that students of any age can use.



To access the the site within the school building, students should go to worldbookonline.com, however, it is accessible to students at home as well with a username and password. If students would like to take advantage of this valuable tool at home, they should contact Mrs. Dreueke (kerri.dreueke@elgineagles.org) for the necessary information.



**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.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Residents of District 18, Elgin, are notified that School District 18, Elgin, NE participates in all required Special Education Services for all resident students, ages 0-21. If you know of any student not currently being serviced by an appropriate educational program or have questions concerning the Special Education Program, contact the Superintendent's office at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.

**CALENDAR
CHANGE!!!!!!**

Due to the opportunity of our school staff to listen to one of the original freedom writer students, we are changing our school calendar. Teachers will no longer report to school on January 3rd and school WILL NOT get out on May 20th. Instead there will be NO SCHOOL on January 16th for ANY students and in May the students will get out on the 21st. Please mark all of your calendars accordingly.....



4th Grade Animal and Plant Cell Models

The 4th graders have been busy working with animal and plant cells. The student had to create a model of a plant or animal cell. cells. Students also had to label all the parts of the cell. They did an excellent job of making their cell models and were very creative. Cells were made from many different things including candy, play-do, jell-o, styrofoam, and many other creative ideas. Excellent job 4th graders.

American History Tidbits

By: Mrs. Thorberg

The 5th graders have been learning about conflicts in the colonies leading up to the American Revolutionary War. Some events included:

- * The French and Indian War left Britain with a lot of debt.
- * The British thought the colonies should help pay for the French and Indian War by taxing the colonists.
- * Colonists eventually got mad about being taxed so much and said, "No Taxation Without Representation."
- * Parliament passed the Intolerable Acts to punish Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party.
- * The colonists had to resolve their conflict with Great Britain. What will they decide?

The answer coming in January.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Wow, how time flies when you are having fun! One semester is in the books. I hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season and that you enjoyed your time with family and friends. It is amazing how fast the first semester went by.

The first semester in my new job has gone great. Of course, we had a few bumps in the road here and there, but for the most part things have gone very well. During my time in education, I have discovered three keys that are necessary in having a successful school.

1. I truly believe that we have teachers at Elgin Public who sincerely care about the students they teach. Teachers are willing to go the extra mile to help students reach academic success. I also believe that the teachers care for the students beyond the classroom and want them to be successful in the game of life.
2. I believe that we have great kids here at Elgin Public. As I continue to get to know the students, it is apparent that the kids are very respectful and are willing to work hard for their own academic success. They take a lot of pride in their work.
3. Parents play a very important role in the success of any school. Parent involvement in a student's academic life is an essential ingredient to the success of the student. I would encourage parents to continue to be involved in your children's academic lives. If teachers, parents and students are all on the same page, achieving academic success is a very attainable goal.

Next semester will present our student body with more challenges as teachers work tirelessly preparing the students for the NeSA test, which will take place in April. Last year our students performed very well. However, it is a yearly challenge for students and teachers to assure success on the test. As we did in early fall, we will implement MAP testing in the spring to measure our students' academic growth.

It's scary to think about, but since I have been teaching, the second semester always seems to go by faster than the first. As we move through the semester, please remember to keep the lines of communication open. Feel free to call the school anytime if you have any questions or concerns. Although the weather outside does not feel like it, summer will be here soon.

**Check our website for the most
current news and calendar!**



Happy Holidays!
School resumes January 6th



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NEWSLETTER
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