



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 XXX, Issue 6

January, 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER



Jan. 5
School Resumes



Jan. 15
School Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m. in ITV
Room



Jan. 22
NO SCHOOL
Teacher Inservice

Showing Christmas Spirit With Valentines



The 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade Art classes have been busy getting in the Christmas spirit by making valentines. You might be asking yourself how does making valentines get you in the Christmas spirit? It does when you're making them for hospitalized veterans. We did this project last year but just barely got them mailed to the veterans in Phoenix in time for Valentine's Day. So to beat the rush this year we decided to do them at Christmas time which when we thought about it is the perfect time to be thinking of others and to make something special for them.



SCHOOL PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF REMINDER:



The area north of the preschool is not a "parking" area. Please drive in a single file line (from west to east) and pick-up or drop-off your students. If you diagonally park, then you will need to back up and that will cause an unsafe situation for our students. You can still leave your vehicle to walk your children into their classroom, but stay in the line and allow enough room for others to pass you.. Thanks for your help in making our campus a safe environment

Oragami Ornaments



The 4th grade made origami ornaments this year. They cut square pieces of wrapping paper from home and folded them to make kites. They put nine kites together and added their picture and a jingle bell!



New Year's Resolutions 2015

The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2015! Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2015:

- Nicolas- I will try to get A+'s on my assignments.
- Baylee- I will try to not miss any days of school for the rest of the year.
- Aubrei- I will work hard on memorizing multiplication facts.
- Keyera- I will work hard on memorizing multiplication facts.
- Brian- I will work on writing neat in cursive.
- Blake- I will try to not miss any days of school for the rest of the year.
- Dane- I will try to pass all of my Reading Mastery checkouts.
- Brenna- I will work on getting good grades in all subjects.
- Abriel- I will improve my handwriting.
- Jacksyn- I will improve my handwriting.
- Dalton- I will try to get A+'s on my assignments.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2015!
Mrs. Eisenhower and the third graders



Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode

Food Drive

The first grade class along with the FCCLA and FFA will be holding a food drive during the month of January. We will be collecting food for the local food pantry in celebration of our 100th day of school.

The food pantry has a real need to restock their shelves. This is a great opportunity for us to help them. Anyone wanting to donate can bring food to the office or first grade room.

Together we "CAN" do it!



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.

Magazine Sales Continue

Our High School classes recently finished our magazine sale. We're sorry if you were missed. If you still want to buy a magazine you can place an order online by going to:

www.gaschoolstore.com

Here is our school code: 2519304. You can also order other gift items online. We will still receive 40% profit.

Thank you for supporting our school fundraising!

BOX TOPS



FOR EDUCATION

We still collect BoxTops For Education and Campbell's Soup UPC Labels. BoxTops and Labels can be dropped off at the school at anytime. Thanks!

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.

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

The 2014 Volleyball Season

The C-team finished with a record of 5-3, and during the FR/SO tourney in Verdigre 1 team went 6-2 and the other 3-3. The Freshman placed 2nd in the Neligh tourney.

Our JV girls finished with a record of 9-4 and ended the season by winning the Cedar Rapids tournament on Oct 25th

The Varsity finished with a 26-5 record, all 5 losses to state bound teams, including 2 to Stuart, State runner-up; 1 to Crofton, state runner-up; and 2 to St. Marys, state Champions. We were 15 hundredths of a point from a wildcard to make it to state. We ended the season as NVC 3rd place, beating CWC for the 4th time and ending as District Runner-Up.



All the way around it was a great season; but it was so much more than just our records; it was a family of 29 girls working hard day in and day out to make themselves better to make their teammates better and to make the Wolfpack Volleyball program better.

2014 Volleyball Post season awards

Letter winners:

Hayley Stamp, Sharla Schindler, Taylor Schumacher, Nicole Beckman, Jenna Parks, Liz Selting, Baylee Wemhoff, Jordan Mescher, Terri Seier

Participants:

Katie Polk, Amy Nelson, Lexie Heithoff, Jill Schindler, Paige Meis, Nicki Payne, Grace Henn, Marie Meis, Heather Bauer, Lizzy Mlnarik, Jaime Hoefler, Gracie Bullock, Avenley Short, Lydia Behnk, Taylor Sehi, Callie Krebs, Kelsey Welding, Taya Voborny, Emily Seier, Shantel Preister

Student Managers:

Ally Wemhoff, Anna Heilhecker, Kayce Kallhoff

Team Voted Awards: Wolfpack Award: Varsity: Jenna Parks JV: Jill Schindler	Most Valuable Player: Varsity: Jenna Parks JV: Amy Nelson C-team: Lydia Behnk	Hustle Award: Varsity: Taylor Schumacher JV: Nicki Payne C-team: Calli Krebs
Best Defense: Varsity: Jordan Mescher JV: Calli Krebs and Paige Meis C-team: Lydia Behnk	Best Offense: Varsity: Liz Selting JV: Amy Nelson C-team: Lydia Behnk	Most Improved: Varsity: Hayley Stamp and Terri Seier JV: Grace Henn C-team: Shantel Preister

Post Season Awards NVC:

First Team: Jenna Parks and Liz Selting

Second Team: Baylee Wemhoff

Honorable Mention: Taylor Schumacher, Jordan Mescher, and Terri Seier

Norfolk Daily News:

Second Team: Liz Selting

Honorable Mention: Jenna Parks

Lincoln Journal Star:

Honorable Mention: Liz Selting, Jenna Parks, and Baylee Wemhoff

Nebraska Prep Volleyball:

Honorable Mention: Jenna Parks and Liz Selting

As a team we were also rated 6th at the end of the season by Norfolk Daily News, Lincoln Journal Star, and Nebraska Prep.

Also breaking records this year were Most Ace Serves in a Season by Liz Selting with 42. The Most attacks in a season with 712 was Liz Selting and Jenna Parks already broke the attacks in a career with 1351. Liz also has the most kills in a 3 set game with 20. Liz broke the kills in a season with 284 and Jenna broke the record for kills in a career with 443. Jenna also has the most sets in a career with 2782 and assists in a career with 761. A full list of records can be found on the website.

Classroom Snippets . . .

Study Tips from Resource Room

As we have been doing the writing process for many years, students have been taught the five steps:

- 1) Prewriting
- 2) First Draft
- 3) Revise
- 4) Edit
- 5) Publish

These five steps are taught in the early years of elementary. However, as the students go through school and move toward the later years, they are not taking the time to always revise and edit their writing as thoroughly as they should.

What and how we write is communication, and if the reader is unsure of what the author is trying to say, then there is a lack of communication.

With the state-wide writing assessment right around the corner, it is important to remember the importance of revising and editing in the writing process.

Second Grade News

Learning doesn't slow down in the second grade room! It has been another busy month. Our new math program has us achieving something new all the time. Last month we measured with rulers and counted change using dimes, nickels, & pennies. We are adding single digit numbers with sums up to 18, discovering lines of symmetry, and even measured ingredients when making apple jack cookies. We are starting to add two digit numbers, using pennies and dimes.

Second Graders have been busy learning contractions, writing many paragraphs, and writing letters to partner in our room. We received our first letter from our Ag in the

Classroom family. They are a farm family from Central City. They raise popcorn, corn, soybeans, and hogs.

Every ones reading has really improved from the start of school in August. The students are working hard to be fluent readers. Science found the 2nd grade class discussing the 4 seasonal changes and now we're learning about how living things change as they grow. We hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas. Look forward to having the class ready to start a new semester in January.



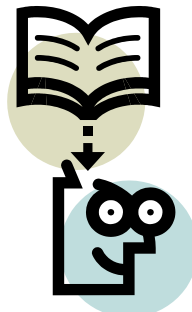
Kindergarten Gardening



This fall, Ms. Siems wrote a mini-grant through Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom and has been notified that her plan for a kindergarten outdoor container garden was selected as a recipient of a \$400 grant. We should have lots of fun and get a little dirty creating our garden this spring!

Literature Brings Forth Discussion in Junior High English

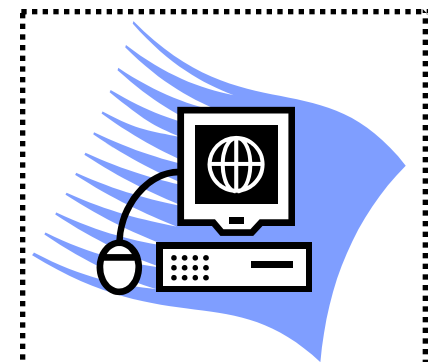
Just in time to end the first semester, both the seventh and eighth English classes have finished reading class novels. The seventh graders read *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick, and we had extensive discussions on the various story elements that make this such a unique book. The main character discovers his own voice with the help of a new friend. It has a unique point of view and sends a powerful message about the value of friendship and standing up for one another.



The eighth graders recently completed *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, which delivers lessons about the lack of choice and individuality. The eighth graders had lengthy discussions about foreshadowing, symbolism, and theme. We compared this science fiction novel to the many dystopian novels turned motion pictures that are popular today, including the Hunger Games and Divergent trilogies. This book, originally published in 1993, was also turned into a motion picture just this year.



Both classes did an excellent job with these books, and we hope that the lessons these books deliver stays with them as good literature should.



The 5 Main Internet Safety Rules:

- * Don't give out personal information
- * Never agree to get together with someone you meet online.
- * Don't believe everything you read online.
- * Only use your first name.
- * Don't give out your account password

“I Believe” Community Contribution Program

Organization Name: Elgin FFA Chapter
Address: 101 North 1st Street
City, State: Elgin, NE 68636
Telephone: 402-843-2455
Email: Julia.schwartz@elgineagles.org
Name of person making request: Elgin FFA Advisor, Julia Schwartz
Type and Amount of Request: “I Believe” Campaign



Program/project description:

The “I Believe” campaign was developed by the Nebraska FFA Foundation as a way of assisting FFA chapters with securing financial support for leadership conferences for students, community service projects, and innovative projects that promote agriculture. All funds donated will be returned to the local FFA chapter in addition to a proportional share of a \$24,000 challenge match pool of funds provided by the “I Believe” campaign cooperate sponsors listed on the back of the donation card.

Husker Sports Marketing has teamed with the Nebraska FFA Foundation to promote this program by supplying FFA chapters with advertising, donation pledge cards, and promotional materials. The program intends to provide a strong support system within a community for agricultural education, develop opportunities to form relationships with local corporate sponsors, and increase support from donors outside of the community through statewide campaign promotions.

Communities/beneficiaries/customers served:

By investing in the skill and leadership development of students in the Elgin Agricultural Education program you will be training students in valuable job skills, and professional skills, that can be utilized to work, live, and contribute to our communities. Through supporting agricultural education and the FFA organization, you are investing in the future of individuals who will be actively involved in production of agricultural products and entering the field of work in agriculture.

Donors will benefit from this campaign by having developed support for the future of agriculture in Nebraska. Provide support to the long-term success of the ag industry and rural communities, and knowing that 100% of their donation supports the chapter of their choice. All donations are tax-deductible and donors will receive a thank you letter that can be used for their tax receipt.

Organization Background:

Elgin FFA has been trying to establish itself in respect to its involvement in the local communities by supporting and promoting agriculture. Elgin FFA has a long history of FFA success and community involvement. Elgin FFA has approximately 45 students who come from the communities of Elgin, Petersburg, Raeville, Ewing, and Neligh. The chapter has members who come from Antelope, Boone, Holt and Wheeler counties.

Recognition:

- All contributors will be listed in a booklet, which is mailed to all contributors and explains the program. These are made available at the Nebraska State FFA Convention in the program book and the Nebraska FFA Foundation Annual Report.
 - All contributors listed on the Nebraska FFA Foundation Website.
- All contributors’ names will be provided back to the Elgin FFA Chapter for recognition in local newspapers and at the chapter FFA banquet.

Where does the money go?

Money is collected by the Nebraska FFA Foundation and distributed back to designated FFA chapter. All money designated to the Elgin FFA chapter will be returned to the chapter. All donations will be matched with a proportional share of a \$24,000 challenge match pool of funds from corporate sponsors.

How will the money be used?

The Elgin FFA chapter will direct the funds toward the following uses:
Leadership & Career Development Conference for students
Community service projects
Innovative projects that promote agriculture

How can you donate?

Supporters can donate by going to www.neffaoundation.org or by mailing in the donation card to the Nebraska FFA Foundation.

MAILING ADDRESS: NEBRASKA FFA FOUNDATION, PO BOX 94942, Lincoln, NE 68509

ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO: NEBRASKA FFA FOUNDATION

Please fill out the enclosed card and return with the check.

EPS Students Deck the Halls for the Holiday Season

by Mrs. Shoe



On Monday, December 8, the halls of EPS were bustling, as students and teachers rushed to put finishing touches on their doors and trees. The holiday hustling was all in honor of the second annual Deck the Halls contest sponsored by the student council.

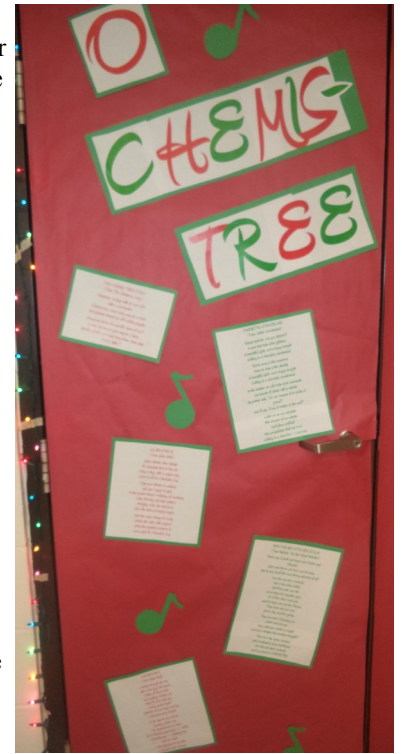
Elementary classrooms took part in the tree decorating competition, while jr. high, high school and staff members competed in the door decorating category.

In addition, everyone was invited to contribute to the decorating of the campus Christmas tree located outside the gym doors.

On Monday, December 22, staff and students were encouraged to participate in a Holiday Spirit Day. Attire could consist of ugly Christmas sweaters, red and green clothing, or the full Santa Suit. Following lunch, the student council judged all participants in two categories: 1) Ugliest Sweater 2) Most Festive Apparel.

Thanks to everyone for joining in the fun and festivity of the season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Student Council Elves!



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 has a safe and enjoyable holiday season and that you enjoy your time with family and friends.

What a fast and enjoyable first semester we have had. 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. The students here are very respectful and are willing to work hard for their own academic success. They take a lot of pride in their work and most have very high expectations of themselves.
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. The 8th grades have also been selected to take the NAEP test (National Assessment of Educational Progress) by the Nebraska Department of Education; this test will take place in March. We are excited to see how our students stack up with 8th grade students across the United States.

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. Have a great holiday season.

OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2014-2015, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.

*I believe you become great when
you help others become great.*

Jon Gordon

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.



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.

Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

The first semester was as swift as any I have experienced in my 25 years. Just when you think time cannot go any quicker, it does. The Wolfpack continues to have success as the students and coaches from both schools put in the time and work to become all they can be on their respective teams. I would also like to acknowledge the fact that no matter where we go and compete we always get good reports on the behavior of our kids and how mature and responsible they are. On the rare occasion when this is not the case, staff makes sure it's a point of emphasis and will be the case in the future. I think that is a tribute to our parents, teachers and students of both schools. Whether competing together as the Wolfpack on the athletic landscape, or separately as individual schools in other areas; the virtue and behavior of most all our kids is positive and bodes well for Elgin. We have a whole semester to go yet this year but it goes fast. In no time pre-schoolers will be preparing to come back as kindergarteners, 6th graders will be planning to be back at school and competing in junior high activities and juniors having gotten their senior pictures done and college visits planned, will be readying themselves for their final year of school!

It all goes so fast, and we need to make sure they are prepared. Please join us in continually trying to help our students be and achieve all they can in all areas they chose to be involved. Any questions about school operations or anything to do with the Elgin Public Schools, please feel free to give us a call...HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

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



Happy Holidays!
School resumes January 5th



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