



# EAGLE UPDATE


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May, 2019


## DATES TO REMEMBER


 Elementary Grandparents Day  
May 3rd


 Academic Awards Night  
May 7th  
7:00 PM

 Graduation  
May 11th  
5:00 PM

 Elementary Spring Concert  
May 13th  
7:00 PM

 School Board Meeting  
May 15th  
7:30 PM

 Preschool Graduation  
May 21st  
6:30 PM

 Kindergarten Graduation  
May 21st  
7:30 PM

 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL  
May 23rd  
11:00 DISMISSAL



# EPS PROM "SWEET" FUN



# WITH CANDYLAND THEME

From Mr. Becker



1st and 2nd grade have been working on their juggling skills in P.E.

From Mrs. McClellan



First graders had so much fun at Pete the Cat in Norfolk on March 27th!

From Mrs. Beckman



The second graders are using their ipads to practice spelling words and write the correct possessive for Language class.

From Mrs. Borer

### Preventing the Summer Slide

Need something to keep those brains in shape during the summer months? Do IXL! EPS pays for it year round so elementary students can practice Language Arts and Math skills. Each student has a username and password so they can access it almost anywhere. Download the app or use [ixl.com](http://ixl.com) in your browser. Completing a skill a day would be easy as pie and you'd come back to school in August ready for your new grade level. Have a great summer!

From Mrs. Vanis

Spring is finally here! After a crazy cold winter we are finally able to get back outside and enjoy the sunshine and warm weather.



From Mr. Ostransky



The fourth graders ate like the Preston's during class on Friday. To go along with our novel, "Shiloh" the fourth graders made and ate cornbread. From the looks of it, they must've done a great job!

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

**YOU ARE YOUR CHILD'S  
FIRST AND MOST  
IMPORTANT TEACHER**

Take advantage of every chance to teach him and he'll not only know more – he'll learn and read better.

From Mrs. Schwartz



FFA members volunteered to pack meals during the Nebraska State FFA Convention.



From Mrs. Schwartz



The freshmen and 8th grade agricultural classes were able to dissect perch in class.

From Mrs. Drucke



### Science Fair Preparations are Underway

The junior high science classes have been busy preparing for the annual science fair. They have been using scientific inquiry to answer science related questions and problems. They have learned that there are many steps required to prepare for this event, and it is far more extensive than simply conducting an experiment. They have identified a problem, conducted careful research, formed a question, and made a hypothesis. After they have completed those steps, they experiment, collect data, analyze the data, and draw conclusions to answer that original question.

By the time this newsletter is printed, the students will have presented all their hard work at the school's science fair on April 25.



From Mrs. Klein



In 7<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish Specials we celebrated the upcoming Easter weekend. Blake Henn received good luck in the form of a cascarn, or confetti egg, being crushed on his head.

## College Planning

### Seniors ... borrow wisely for college!

Review these tips before you decide how much to borrow in student loans:

- Borrow only what you need, even if it's less than the amount offered in your award letter.
- Try to use your student loan money *only* for tuition, room and board, books, and fees. Get a part-time job during college to pay other expenses.
- Apply for financial aid each year you attend college by completing the [FAFSA](#).
- Continue to look for scholarships while you're in college.
- Keep track of your student loan debt throughout college at [nslds.ed.gov](https://nslds.ed.gov).

### Juniors... here's your summer to-do list

**Narrow your college choices** to three or four by the time school starts. If you haven't already, [schedule campus visits](#) to your top contenders.

**Become familiar with the [FAFSA](#)** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). You and your parents can complete this form to apply for college financial aid on or after October 1.

**Update your [Activities Resume](#)** at [EducationQuest.org](#). Include extracurricular activities, honors, awards, and part-time jobs.

**Look for scholarships.** Check out [ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#) for Nebraska-based scholarships, and pay attention to scholarships current seniors have received.

**Find a summer job to help pay for college expenses.** Ask prospective employers if they offer education assistance programs.



The second grade hid an Easter egg on the playground for the kindergarten class.

From Mr. Mlinar

Elgin High is a 1:1 technology school. Starting in the seventh grade, students are assigned a laptop. Computers are used for class work and homework. Students are allowed to take their laptops home.

Utilizing a school-issued laptop is a privilege, not a right. Not every student in America has access to a computer. With this privilege comes a great responsibility. Students should show a standard of care by following these precautions:

- Carry the laptop in the school-issued bag
- Place laptop on table or desk, not on floor!
- Shut the screen slowly and carefully
- Open the screen slowly and carefully
- Keep the laptop out of hot and cold temperatures
- In other words, laptops should NOT be stored in a vehicle!
- Charge the battery before school every day
- Restart the computer AT LEAST once a week for updates

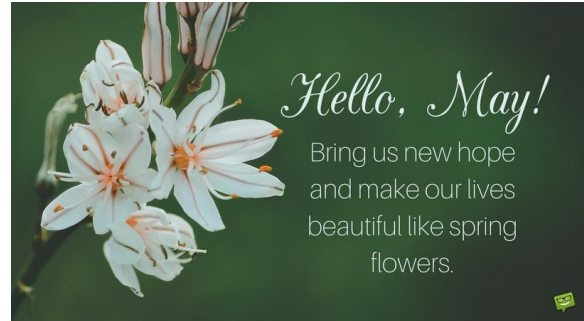
In the end, it is a choice. Students either **CHOOSE** to care or not to care. I hope students make the correct decision. Damaged screens, hinges, and hard drives cost money. Every year, I've had at least one student (or parent!) pay for a damaged computer. It's no fun ending the year with a computer repair bill! Thanks for understanding.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Make memories,  
build brains and  
vocabulary with  
daily reading  
aloud.

21 DAY  
CHALLENGE

From Mrs. Zwingman



From Mrs. Shumake-Henn



Members of the EPS Journalism crew continue to stay busy entertaining and informing the school and community of the latest and greatest at EPS.

To date, they have produced eleven newsletters and eighteen videos. These include news episodes and special features. Episode #8 is currently nearing the end of production, and Episodes #9 and #10 are in the works.

To access all videos, go to our channel on Youtube--W-EPS: The Beak. Our video collection is just a click away. We have also been featured in two issues of the *Norfolk Daily News* as a part of their 20 Below page.

You can also follow our shenanigans as well as other important school events on Twitter--@WEPSTheBeak.

If you have any events, news, pictures, ideas, etc. please tag us. You can also reach us at our e-mail address: [journalism@elgineagles.org](mailto:journalism@elgineagles.org)

Thank you to all who have taken the time to contribute this year.

From Mrs. Lindgren

As a teacher I have had the opportunity to help out with many student activities. As a junior parent this year, I had a first: being on the Post-Prom Committee. Our small group worked hard to raise money to provide Elgin juniors and seniors with an enjoyable evening. We hired Jim Perry Magic to perform, and his comedy was enjoyed almost more than his magic tricks.

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our efforts during the school year!



From Mrs. D. Heithoff

The Elgin Public Junior-Senior Prom was held on Saturday, April 13, 2019. This was the second year in a row that prom was threatened by a snow storm. The juniors decorated for this year's Candy Land themed prom on Wednesday in preparation of the snow storm that hit the area on Thursday. Even though school was not held on Thursday and a late start was called for Friday, Saturday turned out to be a beautiful day for prom.

Twenty students were presented in the Grand March that was held at 7:00 pm. Pictures were then taken by Kimberly's Photography followed by the meal at 8:00 pm catered by Jodine Meis. The dance was held from 9:00 pm – 12:00 am with music provided by Kelly Kerkman. Students then participated in the post prom activities put together by the junior parents at the public school gym.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

*Reading aloud*  
is the best way to help children  
**develop word mastery** and  
**grammatical understanding**,  
which form the basis for **learning**  
**how to read.**

**21 DAY**  
CHALLENGE

Two Different Communication Genres and  
Implications for Vocabulary Development  
and Learning to Read - Dominic W. Massaro

# F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff  
Greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



*Elementary  
Grandparents Day Event  
May 3rd, 2019*

*Grandparents—please be our special guest on Friday the 3rd of May.  
The event runs from 11:00-1:00  
We look forward to seeing you all!!*



From Mrs. Eisenhauer



The third graders celebrated their achievements in learning all of the multiplication facts in math with an ice cream sundae party. The students worked on mastering all multiplication facts through the 12's since January. For each set of facts passed, they earned a topping for their ice cream sundaes.

Seven students passed all of the facts- Cylus, Max, Vivienne, Evin, Kaidynce, Zaiden, and Molly! Way to work 3rd graders!



# Administratively Speaking . .



By Supt. Dan Polk  
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

Spring is here! Or at least that's what the calendar says, and the weather is FINALLY starting to look like it as well.

As always happens this time of year the board and I are wrapping up plans for the summer and various projects, plans and changes to improve the facilities, curriculum and over-all function of the Elgin Public Schools. It is always a time consuming undertaking but is a lot easier with the cooperation and efforts of a SOLID staff. We have tremendous non-certified staff as well as certified teaching staff at the Elgin Public Schools and our facilities, state test scores, equipment and MOST IMPORTANTLY students, clearly show that. Our board of education is very proud of the school and continually steps up to support its improvements and students. Not many schools/students have an educational field trip to the east coast, club and activity shirts provided, a commercial grade greenhouse, 1 to 1 computers and ipads, dual-credit opportunities, various unique class electives, distance learning opportunities and a quality staff the level of which our students do. We strive to continue those things and expand our vision and support. I often like to think the town slogan easily applies to Elgin Public....Some bigger, some smaller, none better... Go Eagles.

Any comments, concerns or questions about this article or any other school business or information, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

The K-12 Elgin Public Art students recently attended the ESU#8 Invitational Art show in Neligh. The show represented 5,500 students in 30 schools from seven different counties. EHS K-8 students had 24 entries in the show. Ten students earned Superior (blue) ribbons and four earned Excellent (red) ribbons. Earning blues were Jayvin Erickson, Gentry Zwingman, Max Henn, Jarek Erickson, Sara Bode (2), Callie Heithoff, Samantha Durre, Blake Henn and Baylee Busted. Bringing home reds were Gentry Zwingman, Braelyn Martinsen and Kierstyn Eisenhauer (2).



Seven high school students earned a total of 11 ribbons. Kira Widger, Anna Heilhecker (2) and Breanna Carr earned Superior ribbons. Kira Widger, Anna Heilhecker (2), Mateo Kirstine, Breanna Carr and Garet Behnk (2) brought home Excellent ribbons.



From Mr. Heithoff

On April 12th, the 7-12 Band and 7-12 Choir, as well as soloists competed at District Music Contest in Wisner. All entries received either Excellent (2) or Superior (1) ratings!

Following District Music Contest, the band, choir, and soloists held their spring concert on April 15th. The junior high and high school musicians were joined by 5th and 6th grade soloists and small groups that had their Solo Contest snowed out in March.

After the 5th and 6th performers, the choir sang *There Will Come Soft Rains*, *Bring Him Home* (from "Les Miserables"), and *Why We Sing*. We then heard the soloists and duet that performed at District Music Contest.

These included Breanna Carr singing *Loch Lomond*, Grace Rittscher singing *Poor Boy*, Ally Wemhoff singing *Homeward Bound*, Ally and Grace singing a duet titled *'Till the Stars Fall From the Sky*, Baylee Busted singing *Poor Wayfaring Stranger*, Brenna Martinsen singing *To The Sky*, Baylee and Brenna singing a duet titled *Homeward Bound*, and finished up with Ally playing her piano solo *Canto de Estio* (Song of Summer).



The 7-12 band then performed *Skygazer Fanfare*, *The Water Is Wide*, *Gentle River*, and *Terracotta Warriors*.

Thank you to all the band and choir members, as well as the parents and community members that continue to support our music groups. It really is amazing for a school our size to have as much involvement in music as we do, not to mention just how good our student musicians are and how much hard work they put in! We hope to bring many more entertaining and quality performances to you in the future!

(pictures taken by Mrs. Rita Heithoff)

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**ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
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