



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
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Volume XXX, Issue 4

November, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER



Nov. 11
Veterans Day
Program
11:00 a.m.
EPS Gym



Nov. 12
LATE START
10:00 a.m.



Nov. 12
School Board Mtg.
in ITV room
7:30 p.m.



Nov. 26
EARLY
DISMISSAL
1:00 P.M.



Nov. 27 & 28
NO SCHOOL

Jr. Livestock Judging Team Qualifies For State.



State Qualifying Livestock Judging Team from Left to right: Lizzy Mlnarik, Hayes Miller, Heather Bauer, and Grace Henn.

Lizzy Mlnarik, Hayes Miller, Heather Bauer and Grace Henn placed 3rd overall in the District X Livestock Judging Contest held in Neligh on October 15th. Here are more results of that day.

Jr. Division: 184 total Participants, 41 Teams

Heather Bauer -13rd Individual
Lizzy Mlnarik -3rd Individual
Hayes Miller - 17th Individual
Grace Henn - 20th Individual

Sr. Division: 94 total Participants, 20 Teams

Dylan Widger - 9th Individual
Lexie Heithoff - 24th Individual
Morgan Carpenter - 26th Individual
Trey Baum - 27th Individual
This team was 5th overall!



The Elgin FFA Chapter would like to thank all of those you supported our organization and purchased a member(s) from the labor auction! What a tremendous show of support!

We would also like to thank all of those who helped with the District X Livestock Judging contest we hosted in Neligh on October 15th. A special thanks to all the mom's, dad's, and livestock producers in the area. We also had many community members from Elgin and Neligh pitch in and help as groups leaders or help in some other way. The day could not of been a success without each one of you!

EPPJ Jr. High Volleyball Squad Places 3rd at Ewing Tournament



On Saturday, October 18, the EPPJ Wolfpack Volleyball Team traveled to the Ewing Tournament. In game one, the Pack defeated Neligh Oakdale in straight sets: 25-13, 26-24. In the second set, the team battled back from a 18-24 deficit behind the serves of Emma Kerkman. Kerkman served 8 straight to help finish out the game. From the serving line, Wemhoff delivered 6 aces. Kerkman was credited with 5, including some key ones to help clinch the win. Kaylee Martinsen and Lauren Seier each contributed to the win with 1 ace serve apiece.

Kerkman was also tough at the net with 4 kill. Martinsen added 3. Anna Heilhecker found the floor with 2 and Vada Kruse and Kayce Kallhoff each put 1 away for kills. The setters consistently provided attacking opportunities for the team. Heilhecker produced 7 assists and Wemhoff added 1 assist. Martinsen led defensive play with 11 kills. Kallhoff picked up 7. Heilhecker and Wemhoff each handled 6. Kerkman grabbed 2.

Vada Kruse and Lauren Seier each protected the floor with 1 apiece.

The coaches praised the team's ability to fight back in this game. "This was a huge win for the girls. If there is one key thing we needed to work on, it was mental toughness, and that definitely shined in this game," said Coach Stacy Shumake-Henn. "Fighting back when the opponent is already at 24 can really be challenging, but the girls just dug in, believed and got the job done. You've got to credit them for their confidence and their ability to fight. That's what makes them so much fun to work with."

In game two, the team dropped straight sets to the O'Neill Blue Team: 22-25, 20-25. Down several points in set one, the team battled back and nearly took the first set. They gave a solid effort in set two as well, but came up just short. Serving leaders in the match were Wemhoff with 2 aces and Kerkman with 1. Kerkman and Martinsen led the offensive attack with 3 kills apiece. Heilhecker and Wemhoff each hammered down 2. Kruse rounded out the attack with 1 kill. Wemhoff set up 2 assists for the attackers and Heilhecker contributed 1. The defense was led by the play of Heilhecker, who racked up 7 digs. Kallhoff picked up 5. Martinsen, Kerkman, and Kruse each dug up 4. Wemhoff, Seier and Faith Kinney, who played the libero position for the tournament, each added 2 digs to the effort.

"This was a tough game for us, but we stayed right with them," said Shumake-Henn. "We were a little rattled by some tough serving and some deep hits at first, but we adjusted. We had some rallies, but we couldn't quite get over the hump to clinch the win."

Following pool play, the team earned a spot in the third place match, where they defeated O'Neill White in straight sets: 25-14, 25-15. Wemhoff was lead server with 4 aces. Heilhecker served up 3 and Seier dropped 2 serves for aces. Kerkman added 1 ace as well. Kallhoff was a threat at the net with 6 kills. Kerkman found the floor with 5. Wemhoff put away 4, Martinsen 3 and Kruse added to the attack with 2 kills. The offense was evenly run by setters Wemhoff and Heilhecker who each dished out 6 assists. On the defensive side of the match, Heilhecker and Martinsen picked up 7 digs. Wemhoff dug up 5. Kruse, Kallhoff, Kerkman and Maddie Schrage each picked up 1 dig in the effort.

"This was a terrific way to end the season," said Shumake-Henn.

"Everyone on the team contributed to the win. The girls certainly earned their medals today. "The coaches credit the girls for their work ethic and continuous improvement throughout the season. "We improved in every aspect of our game from beginning to end because these kids are competitors and they want to do well. We were blessed once again with some terrific kids this season. We had fun and we grew by leaps and bounds. You can't ask for more than that as a coach."



Junior High Volleyball players complete their volleyball season!



The Freshman Wolpack Volleyball team were Runner-Ups at the Neligh Freshman Tournament. They beat Neligh in the first game 25-12 25-17 and lost to Norfolk Catholic in the Championship game 22-25 19-25. It was a good experience for these girls!

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.

“Be yourself;
everyone else is already taken.”
-Oscar Wilde

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.



This years' Algebra I class are studying electronically for their test! Good Luck!!



**2014
Homecoming
Royalty**

After a week of homecoming festivities, Sharla Schindler and Kyle Heithoff were crowned the Elgin Public School Homecoming Queen & King. They are shown in the picture with second grade crown bearers, Callie Heithoff and Gage Evans. Congratulations, Sharla & Kyle!



My Child Is Absent-- Does the School Need a Note?

It is very important that the school knows the whereabouts of all the students during the school day. The school has a responsibility to keep track of all students for their safety during the

school day. Your child is expected at school each day that school is in session. If your child will not be attending school, parents should call the school (843-2455) right away in the morning to tell us why your child cannot attend. We should still receive a handwritten note or e-mail from the parent when the child returns to school. All notes are filed in the student's file for the entire year. If there is ever a question about an absence that is reported on our computer system, we have that note or e-mail to verify the information.

The Nebraska Dept. of Education requires each school to report excessive absences each month. These requirements are an attempt to cut down on the number of student absences. NDE feels that greater accountability will result in better attendance.

The North Central District Health Dept. does a weekly surveillance with schools. School surveillance is a state-wide effort that is used for early recognition of disease outbreaks throughout Nebraska in order to treat the diseases, such as influenza, promptly and stop the spread of the disease as quickly as possible.

By calling the school and sending a note when your child is absent, you are assisting the school in keeping top-notch attendance records.



Thank you ELGIN FIRE DEPT. for allowing us to visit the fire hall during fire prevention week!

Thank you for the job you do for our community!



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM SET

NOVEMBER 11, 2014

11:00 A.M.

EPS GYMNASIUM

Please join the local veterans organizations, school students, and the Elgin community as we pay tribute to our present military personnel and the veterans who have served in past years.

Hope to see you there!

Counselor's Corner



Seniors...it's time to start the admissions process!

Admission deadlines will start hitting this fall. Follow these steps to stay on track:

- * **Complete your college visits** and narrow your choices to 3-4 schools.
- * **Contact your top colleges NOW** and ask about deadlines and the process for applying for admission, college-based scholarships and financial aid.
- * **Apply to your top 3-4 colleges before the deadline.** Along with your application, the colleges will require your high school transcript, class rank, GPA and ACT/SAT score. They may also request a list of your extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, an essay, and an interview.
- * **Update your *Activities Resume*.** Since extracurricular activities are an important part of the admissions application, keep them up-to-date by using the [Activities Resume](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).
- * **Contact your admissions representative periodically** to stay informed about deadlines and campus activities.

Attend a Financial Aid Program to learn college funding options

If you attend, you can register to win a \$500 scholarship!

Juniors and seniors - to learn about financial aid and other college funding options, attend an EducationQuest [Financial Aid Program](#) with a parent or guardian. If you attend, you'll be eligible to apply for a \$500 *Financial Aid Program Scholarship!* [Find details](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).

Juniors...start researching colleges

If you narrow your college choices by the end of your junior year, your senior year will be less stressful. Here's how to get started:

- * **Review [College Profiles](#)** at [EducationQuest.org](#) for information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country. If you're interested in an out-of-state school, check out the [Midwest Student Exchange Program](#) to learn about options for discounts on tuition.
- * **Meet with college representatives** who visit your school, and then visit the websites of the colleges that interest you to learn more about the schools.
- * Once you've narrowed your choices, **schedule campus visits.** Try to visit in the spring of your junior year while colleges are still in session.

For more tips, visit the [Selecting a College section](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).

November "To Do" List

Juniors and seniors...complete these tasks in November to stay on the path to college!

___ Seniors, [register](#) by November 7 for December 13 ACT.

___ Seniors, [register](#) by November 6 for December 6 SAT.

___ Attend a [Financial Aid Program](#) in your area and apply for a \$500 scholarship.

___ Apply for scholarships. Visit free sites such as

[ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).

___ Meet with college representatives who visit your school.



U. S. Citizen

The second grade has been talking about how to be a good citizen. Yoli Anderson came to talk to our class about how she became a citizen of the United States. She explained how she studied about our country's history and after passing a test regarding the United States she was granted a certificate for citizenship. Yoli also explained to the second grade that their birth certificate proves that they are a United States citizen.

HEALTHY HAND WASHING



If you have not done so already, now is a good time to help your child develop healthy hand washing habits.

Proper hand washing can prevent the spread of many communicable diseases. Water alone, however, won't kill germs.

Soap is needed too.

Drying the hands with a disposable paper towel will help stop the spread of germs.

Here are some appropriate occasions for your child to practice hand washing:

- ⇒ When he comes into the house after playing outdoors.
- ⇒ After using the toilet.
- ⇒ After petting an animal.
- ⇒ Before eating food.

Good habits--learned early--can last a lifetime. So, help your child develop the good habit of washing his hands.



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.

Yearbook Ads



Have you sponsored an ad in the yearbook yet? What a terrific way to support our school.

Please contact Mrs. Rita Heithoff
843-2455.

TECH TUESDAY

“You'll never know everything about anything, especially something you love.”
— **Julia Child**

Any veteran teacher will readily admit that the way we educate our children has changed drastically since the time when he or she first began teaching. These changes have accelerated greatly in the past decade due to the availability of technology in our classrooms and homes. Students learn differently because of technology, and, in order to effectively teach today's student, educators strive to find ways to reach our 'techie' students.

In an effort to help one another learn, our faculty is being offered the opportunity to attend a voluntary monthly session called “Tech Tuesday” to discuss how to utilize technology in our classrooms. Because our teachers at Elgin Public truly have a desire to see our students succeed, they have been willing to invest their personal time to help better reach our students. Even though they are teachers, they still realize there is much to learn.

By Mrs. Druke

Classroom Snippets ...

A New Face

At the beginning of the year there were seven and now there are eight sixth graders. We are excited to have Colleen B. join our class.

Welcome!

By Mrs. Thorberg

Art Chairs

Check out the school website to see the final results on the Art chairs. Go to "Academics-Art" to view the Art 1 students great work.

By Mrs. Heithoff



Yearbook Ads

Go to "Academics-Yearbook" to view the list of yearbook sponsors. Download a form to add your business to the list. Businesses are added as I receive their forms. Thank you to all of the businesses who support a lifetime of memories for the 2015 yearbook.

By Mrs. Heithoff

Study Tips from the Resource Room



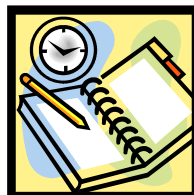
A couple of reminders for students when using the assignment books:

1) At the end of study hall each day, highlight what you have for homework to complete that night.

2) When you are given an assignment that will not be due for a couple of days, a week, etc. You need to write the assignment down the day it is assigned and every day after in your assignment book till it is due.

- This will prevent you from forgetting about it. If you only write it down the day it is assigned, you will never see it again after that day.

By Mrs. Zwingman



From the Social Studies Class Room!

The students in Great Plains History are finding out that some things today are much easier now than they were back when the native Americans and settlers were living out here in the great plains.



For example today if students want to cook something or they get a little chilly they just start the

oven, punch in the time on the microwave, and turn up the thermostat. Back in time you had to start a fire with primitive tools and skills. Firewood was gathered and the fire had to be tended to all day. Cooking also took all day if you were cooking three meals.

These students are learning how settlers and Native Americans built fires, and cooked on open flames. They are building primitive fire making tools and learning just how hard it use to be.

By Mr. Prater

MATH FUN NIGHT



Our first annual Math Fun Night was held on Monday, October 13th. Parents got to see what Morning Meeting and Power Up were like after the students taught it to them. There were many games to choose from, such as Battleship and Baseball Math. It was a great night of making math fun!

Celebrating Death With Sugar Skulls and Masks

El Día de los Muertos



The idea of death is typically a sad one for our culture. That is why this month will be a little bit 'out of the box' for my Spanish students. We will be experiencing the Mexican tradition of el Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead.) It is a holiday with roots in both Aztec ceremonies and Catholic doctrine that celebrates the loved ones we have lost. Día de los Muertos takes place on November 1 and 2, All Souls and All Saints Days. It is believed that the souls of the departed return to earth to celebrate with friends and family, reminiscing in what was.

My students will learn about this holiday and take part in different levels. My elementary and junior high students will be making some máscaras (masks) that are typically worn during the celebration. My high school students will do everything from studying the celebration to baking pan de muerto (bread of the dead) and creating their own ofrendas (altars) to remember loved ones they've lost.

The Spanish Club will be baking a decorating cookies to hand out to the elementary classes and to the teachers in honor of this holiday.

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

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



The first grade got the chance to visit the fire station and ride on the fire truck. It was a fun trip. Thank you firemen!



Kindergarten students visited the Fire Station on October 8. Thank you to the volunteer firemen for the talk, ride, and treats and all that you do to help keep us safe.



Nebraska Performance Accountability System

Elgin Public once again has taken part in the Nebraska Performance Accountability System, NePAS for short. NePAS is the result of a Federal requirement of State governments to provide additional accountability on local school districts. Basically what the system does is ranks school districts on three areas and three grade configurations. 1) STATUS, district rankings based on state test results (NeSA) in reading, writing, math and science 2) IMPROVEMENT, which ranks districts on the level of improvement in reading and math, based on the scores of students in the same grade year to year (different students) 3) GROWTH, district rankings based on the reading and math scores of the same students this year compared to last year. NePAS ranks districts by elementary (grades 3-5), middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12).

As a district it is our goal is to ensure that students gain the skills and knowledge to function as creative, discerning, and productive members of a global society. In order to do this we must be responsive to the data NePAS provides us while balancing our desire to produce the type of people that are creative discerning, and productive members of a global society since data does not always reflect common sense solid values and character. Please make sure that you look at your local papers and next month's newsletter for this year's results. I think you'll be proud of the student's performance and their improvements. Congratulations to the teachers and students for their hard work to improve Elgin Public's NePAS scores.

In-Service Days

I appreciate the work of my staff during teacher in-service days. These days are certainly not days off for the teachers here at EPS. Yes, it is a change of pace for the teachers and maybe not as stressful as a regular school day but the day are important for the success of our school. This month was a little different; teachers took a refresher course in CPR. I feel it is important for our teachers to be prepared if they are every in a situation where CPR is needed (We hope it never happens). The teachers at EPS last had training in CPR in 2011, so I thought it was time for the refresher. All the staff did a great job and took the training very serious. Next month will be a refresher for the staff in differentiating instruction, using data from the MAPs test the students took in September to meet the needs of all students.

Elgin Public PASS System



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

www.elgineagles.org

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

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



Emergency Calls Only

Things always "come up" that sometimes need a change of plans for your child but the daily "Ride the bus", "Don't ride the bus", or "Walk to Grandma's" plans are not phone messages that we should need to daily interrupt classroom work for.

We are happy to help WHEN NEEDED but please try to plan ahead. Send a note with your child or email the teacher in the morning if your child should do something different after school other than their normal routine. Calls to the school office for these things should be rare and of an emergency nature -- though we're all aware there are exceptions. For information, questions, or concerns, please call anytime.

*For the most up-to-date information, please check our website:
www.elgineagles.org*

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



As of the writing of this article the fall weather has been absolutely tremendous. I can recall several October blizzards throughout my life and I'm really glad I haven't added to those recollections yet this year. Once again, however, there may come a time where we have to postpone or cancel school due to the weather. There are many times one part of the district will get weather in a different form or severity than another part of the district. Bus route transportation can be a concern in certain weather. The safety of staff whom we have coming from MANY different directions and MANY miles outside of the district to serve our students is also a concern. I always try and think of those things as well as the importance of getting a school day in when confronted with weather conditions. I also, when I can, try and make the call the night before so that there is more transition time and it is easier for all to become organized for the next day. With that said it isn't always possible to do that, nor are all the calls made "perfect". Suffice it to say I will do the best I can in making those judgment calls. If you feel your student should NOT attend school due to weather and we are still a "go" to have school, just call and let us know.

Believe it or not the fall semester will soon be over and all the children will be one semester closer to going to kindergarten, or moving up to the next grade, or just closer to graduation!!! Time goes so VERY fast and we only have a little bit of that time to help mold young people into respectful, honest, hard-working, self-confident young adults.

As the year goes on please remember education comes first at the Elgin Public Schools. We try and hold that point out front even as we deal with activities as well. There are many different educational lessons learned through different avenues. All activities have valuable things they can offer students in the way of leadership, social skills, organization, work vs. reward and many other things. The well educated, well-rounded graduate are our best products and we want to do all we can, in all the areas that we control, to produce such people. Any comments or concerns about happenings at, or with the school, please be sure to give the administration a call. Mr. Wemhoff and I pride ourselves in being open to communication and available to anyone who would like to visit about Elgin Public School operations. I hope you have a safe and productive harvest/fall season. Go Eagles and Go Wolfpack!

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



**ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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