



EAGLE UPDATE


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Elgin Public School
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Volume XXXIII, Issue 4

November, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER

 November 13
Veteran's Day
Program
EPS Gym- 11:00 am

 November 15
LATE START
10:00 am

 November 22
EARLY OUT
1:00 pm

 November 23-24
NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break

HUSKER ALUM RICKY SIMMONS GIVES MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH AT EPS



Veterans Day Program will be held on November 13th
this year due to State Volleyball Tournament

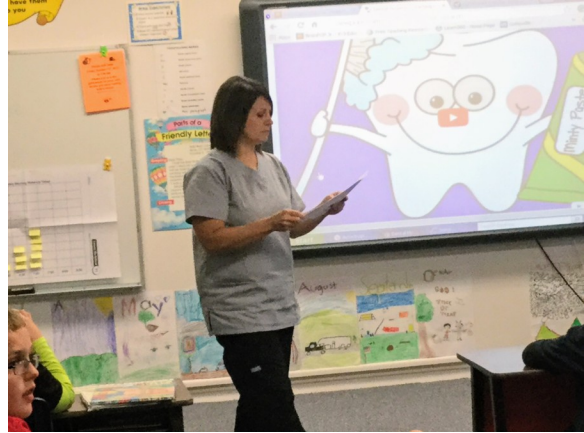
From Mr. Eisenhauer



4th Grade Science Cells

4th graders have been working on plant and animal cells in class. Each student designed what they thought the cell would look like.

From Mrs. Beckman



2nd Grade Learn about Dental Hygiene

Mrs. Stearns our school nurse came into the second-grade classroom and talked with them about dental health. How often they should brush their teeth, when to floss their teeth, and when to see the dentist. She also talked about how to stay healthy. How they should cough and sneeze into their sleeve and when to wash their hands or use sanitizer. Thank you, Mrs. Stearns, for all your information.

From Mrs. Cooper



Johnny Apple Seed

First graders spent the last week of September learning about Johnny Appleseed! On September 26th, they spent the end of the day picking apples. They then had an apple celebration with the kindergartners on September 19th. At the apple celebration, they played counting games, matching games, and enjoyed homemade apple sauce.

From Mr. Heithoff

From the Music Room

Here are some upcoming music events:

- November 6 NVC Choir Concert
7:00 pm– Elgin
- December 14 Elementary Concert
7:00 pm– EPS Gym
- December 19 High School Concert



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.

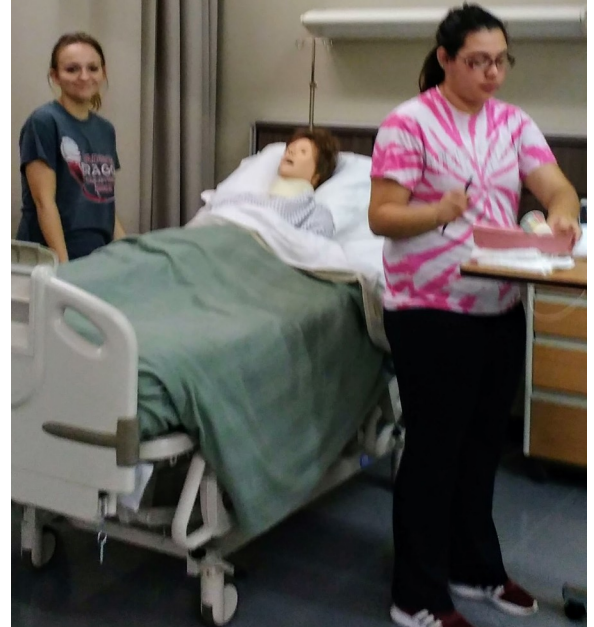
Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.

From Mrs. Rittscher

Four seniors from Elgin Public School participate in the Fridays @ Northeast.

Fridays @ Northeast program is an opportunity for high school seniors to spend Fridays on NECC campus as college students using NECC's lab spaces and classrooms. The courses offered through Fridays @ Northeast allow an introduction to a variety of programs of study. Programs of study for the 2017-2018 school year include Agriculture and Horticulture, Applied Technology, Business and Technology, Early Childhood Education, and Health and Wellness. Recently added is for Spring 2018 is a course in Science, Technology, and Math, called Introduction to Engineering Design. Students receive dual credit for these courses, meaning that they receive high school as well as college credit.

Shelby Dohmen and Myranda Palmer are currently enrolled in a Nurse's Aide course that is designed to meet the Nebraska Health and Human Services System training requirements for nurse aide certification (CNA) and employment in long-term care facilities. Students in this course spend part of their instruction in state-of-the-art health labs, getting hands-on experience in the nursing profession. After successfully passing the examination and completing the application procedure, the students' names will be placed on the basic nurse aide registry at the Nebraska Health & Human Services Regulation & Licensure, Credentialing Division.



Seniors Liam Heithoff and Ashton Evans are enrolled in a Lifetime Wellness course that is designed to develop an understanding of the principles necessary to promote lifetime wellness. Critical issues that affect health are covered, such as stress, nutrition, weight control, physical fitness, disease, substance abuse, and human sexuality.

Elgin Public School also currently provides several other similar opportunities for its students, including dual credit courses offered in college-prep Math courses through EPS's classroom teacher, Mrs. Becky Lindgren; online dual- and college credit-only courses through NECC; a distance learning course through Central Community College; and courses for both high school only and dual credit via Nebraska Virtual Instruction Source.

From Mr. Heithoff

Cadet Band Practicing Awesomeness!

Congratulations to the following students for being in the top 5 practicer's in their class!

6th Grade— Nick, Jeremiah, Baylee, Blake, Keyera

5th Grade— Taylor, Lauren, Sara, Chloe, Callie

Way to go! Keep up the good work!



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM SET

NOVEMBER 13, 2017

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!

From Mrs. Druke



New Books for the Library

Several new science-related nonfiction titles have been added to the elementary library. For students in grades 4-8, a new series titled, "The Science of..." takes a variety of different topics such as sports, survival, movies and explains the science behind them. For students in grades 2-3, we have added several biographies of famous scientists and people who have contributed to the welfare of animal, such as Jack Hanna and Steve Irwin. For our youngest readers we have added two series titled "Science at Work" and "Protecting Animals." Reading nonfiction is an excellent way to develop the study skills necessary to ensure success not only reading but also in content areas such as science and social studies.

From Mr. Mlinar

Balancing Checkbooks in Personal Finance

In Personal Finance, students are learning how to balance a checkbook. Although checkbooks are considered "old-school", learning how to manage a checking account is still an important skill. **Here are some reasons why everyone should have a checking account.**

- 1) A checking account is safe and easy to use.
- 2) It's a safe place to store money and easily accessible.
- 3) The alternatives to a checking account tend to be more expensive and less safe. (Prepaid debit cards, check-cashing services, gift cards, credit cards, etc.)
- 4) A person typically needs a checking or savings account before they can open a credit card.
- 5) Some bills (utilities, insurance, taxes, etc.) may charge a fee to pay with a credit card. A person can save money if they paid using cash, a check, or a debit card.
- 6) Checks show proof that someone was paid. Cash does not leave a paper trail.
- 7) A debit card can be linked to a checking account. Debit cards are a convenient way to pay for items instead of writing a check.

From Mrs. Heithoff



Junior High Success at Scholastic Competition

On October 10, 2017, a team of twelve 7th and 8th graders from Elgin Public participated in the Spalding Academy Scholastic Competition. The competition consisted of 10 area schools and 145 students were in attendance.

8th grade: Jeslynn Beckman, Norman Grothe, Riley Vitamvas, Colton Wright

7th grade: William Heilhecker, Ethan Hinkle, Corbin Kinney, Collin Lindgren, Grace Mace, Kristopher Moreno, Shayd Rokhar, Jack Wemhoff

These students represented Elgin well. The Quiz Bowl Team consisting of Corbin, Kristopher, and Jack placed 2nd overall. Colton placed 3rd in 8th English and 4th in 8th Math. William placed 2nd in 7th English and 4th in 7th Math. Collin placed 3rd in 7th Social Studies and 4th in 7th Science.



WIKI How to Balance a Checkbook

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

From Mrs. Klein



3rd Graders Love Reading for Fun!

The third graders reached some impressive numbers with at home/A.R. reading this first quarter. As a whole class they read 273 books including short and chapter books. They earned 157.5 Accelerated Reader points. Many students moved up to new levels in A.R. books also this quarter. All students met their personal goal for the first quarter! Congratulations to all third graders for working hard to make their reading goals! Keep reading and enjoy the adventures your books take you on!



Spanish Class Getting "Tense"

Spanish 3 has been using one of two forms of the past tense in Spanish to do some writing. Working with their vocabulary and the preterit tense, the classes have created stories about camping trips. To add to the challenge, they also had to write their sentences based on the word combination they would receive from their 'cool cubes.' Needless to say, the stories are quite entertaining!

From Mrs. R Heithoff

Paper Mache in Art Class

The 5th grade art students are busy creating paper mache Day of the Dead masks, while the 6th graders are sculpting paper mache animals. Stay tuned for pictures on the website when they're done.

From Mrs. Vanis

JMC Parent Access



Parents and students can access student's current grades through the EPS website: www.elgineagles.org

Click on JMC Student Information System under "Quick Links" and enter the Student or Parent login & password. If you have questions, please call the school.

The Preschoolers had a very busy week. From their trip to the Fire Station for Fire Safety Week and the morning group went to the Horn T Zoo. Both events were fun and educational experiences!!



Overcoming Life's Difficulties with Math

As I write this article, I am trying to fix a computer that is having software issues. Dealing with a temperamental computer reminds me about how students should react to difficult math problems. Computers don't always give good clues about what is wrong, but if you go through a list of possible fixes, one of them might work. If you give up before exploring all the options, you may only experience disappointment!

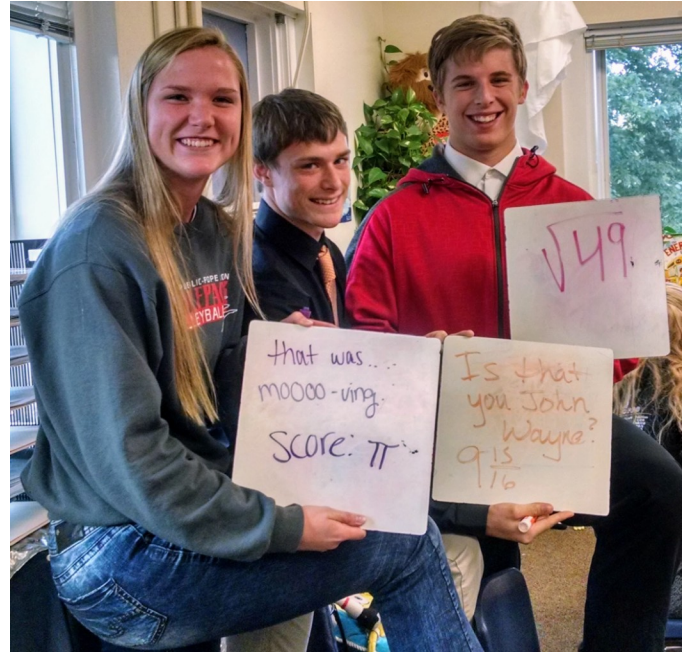
Math problems (and other problems) can be approached in the same manner. There are so many different approaches to solving math problems that no one should ever quit before trying a couple. You can draw diagrams, look for formulas, set up tables, graph, or even guess-and-check. Students need to practice trying different things. It is an amazing boost to your self-esteem when you finally achieve success after making multiple attempts! I like that feeling when I figure out a computer issue, and I feel that way when I solve a math problem (even after all these years)!

Listen! The wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves, we have had our summer evenings, now for October eves!" - Humbert Wolfe

CHECK YOUR LUNCH ACCOUNT ONLINE:

- ⇒ Go to the JMC website <https://elgineagles.onlinejmc.com>
- ⇒ Click the "Parents" button.
- ⇒ Enter your username and password (If you do not know your username or password, please call the school)
- ⇒ Click on Lunch and your balance and transactions will be shown.

If you have any difficulties with access or questions about the program, please contact Anney Beckman 843-2455



English Students Finish Busy First Quarter

The EPS English students have been busy applying what they've learned over the past several weeks. In addition to the typical vocabulary, grammar, and writing assignments, classes have recently covered a variety of literary genres.

In English 12, as a part of the British Literature unit, students created rune projects. After selecting particularly meaningful characters from this archaic alphabet, they scripted them together in a variety of formats. They are now in the midst of tackling *Beowulf* and comparing it to their earlier reading of *The Odyssey*.

Members of the Junior English class have been focusing on American literature, specifically poetry. After revering their school cars in poems characteristic of Native American literature, they moved onto Puritan poetry. This resulted in the annual English 11 Bad Poetry Slam.

English 10 students finished up their reading of *The Miracle Worker* and enjoyed a viewing of the classic movie. They have now moved onto *Of Mice and Men*, which will provide them much inspiration for their upcoming essays.

As an introduction to Greek mythology, the freshmen completed a Twelve Olympians project. The majority of the class completed trading cards for their assigned god/goddess, while two created action figures. The objective was to become familiar with a character and share his/her attributes with the class.

From Mrs. Wemhoff



Kindergarten Enjoys Fire Safety Week

The Kindergarten Class visited the fire station during fire safety week. Thank you Elgin volunteers for making us safe!

From Mr. Ostransky



4th grade had the opportunity to meet Husker great Ricky Simmons on Thursday when he came and spoke at EPS.

From Mr. Becker



Freshman PE warming-up before working hard!

FFA November Events

November 2nd: Pre-District X Livestock Judging at Bassett.

November 15th: District X Livestock Judging at Ord.

November 30th : FFA Meeting, 6:00pm Ag Room

I
CAN.
WE
WILL.

90th National FFA Convention & Expo // Oct. 25 - 28, 2017 // Indianapolis

FFA
Future Farmers of America



Commissioner of Education Explains the Statewide Decrease in ELA Scores

At NDE we realize the impact of the more rigorous college and career aligned statewide assessments has affected school and district English Language Arts scores. NDE will not be comparing the new ELA results from the 2016-2017 assessments with the NeSA-Reading data. NDE encourages school personnel to also avoid connecting the two years of data; NDE will not post any comparative data on the Nebraska Education Profile; and NDE will express to the media upon public release that the scores should not be compared. Comparing the data for 2017 ELA scores to 2016 Reading scores is misleading for many reasons.

CCR ELA Standards—First, the new English Language Arts assessments are aligned to much more rigorous state standards. The Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards of English Language Arts were written by committees of Nebraska teachers who developed them to be measures of college and career readiness. Post-secondary signed off that the standards set expectations to prepare students for success.

New Definition of “Meeting” Expectations—In addition to more rigorous content standards, the meaning of “passing” the new English Language Arts assessments is also a much higher standard. The former assessments’ cut scores —NeSA-Reading—were set by determining the score that a student who was “barely proficient” would earn. Students who were “barely proficient” would have been in Meets-or “passing.” The new cut scores were set to measure college and career readiness, a very different measure. Students who score in levels 1 or 2—or “passing” on the ELA test are on track for college and career readiness.

Professional Expertise of Nebraska educators—As always is our practice in Nebraska, NDE staff did not set the recommendations for cut scores for the English Language Arts assessments. Rather, Nebraska educator committees who work with the children in that grade level set the suggested ranges for recommendations for the ELA cut scores. It is a complex process that took seven days of professional meetings across the grades, and the grade-level educators’ professional opinions set the rigor at expectations of college and career readiness.

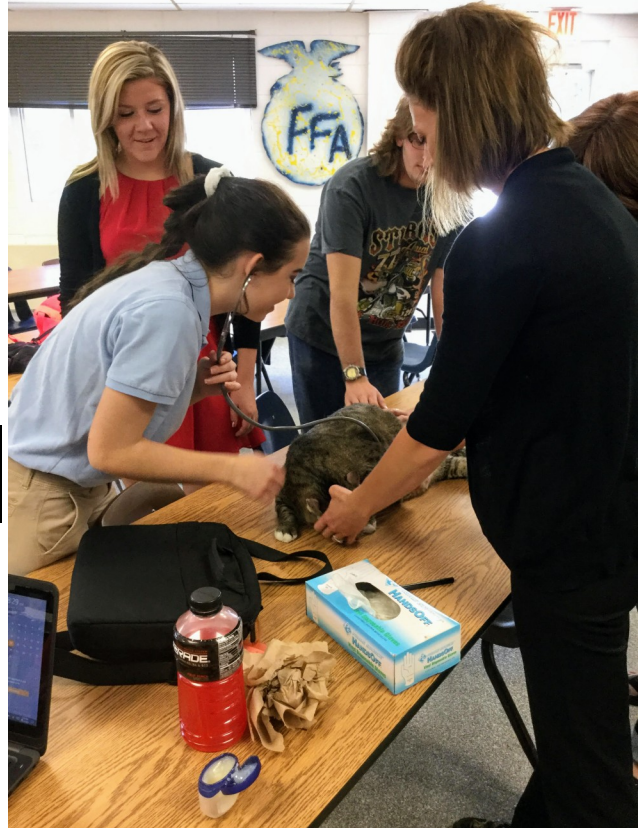
NDE has had in place a full communication plan for three years about the change in rigor and the effect on scores that would occur on the English Language Arts assessments. When rigor increases, test scores decrease. The first year of results sets a baseline, and as school curriculum is fine-tuned, teachers adjust instructional strategies, and students are exposed to the curriculum over multiple years, scores move in an upward trend. Improving learning for students is the ultimate goal, and assuring that Nebraska students are prepared for college and post-secondary careers is key to the vision of AQuESTT. We began the communication about the change in 2014. We have continued the message over the three years, through media releases and consistent messaging to educators—and will continue to throughout the releases of 2017 results.

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



Vet Science students study directional terminology through a gummy bear lab. Students were also able to practice taking the temperature, pulse and respiration on a dog and cat.

*For the most up-to-date information,
please check our website:*





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