



EAGLE UPDATE

Home of the Eagles


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 XXXIV, Issue 4


November, 2018


DATES TO REMEMBER


 November 12
Veteran's Day
Program
EPS Gym- 11:00 am

 November 13
NO SCHOOL for
Grades 7-12
EPS Hosts
NVC One-Act

 November 14
LATE START
10:00 am

 November 14
School Board Meeting
ITV Room- 6:30pm

 November 21
EARLY OUT
1:00 pm

 November 22-23
NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break

Another great turn-out for Donuts with Dads!



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

From Mr. Eisenhauer



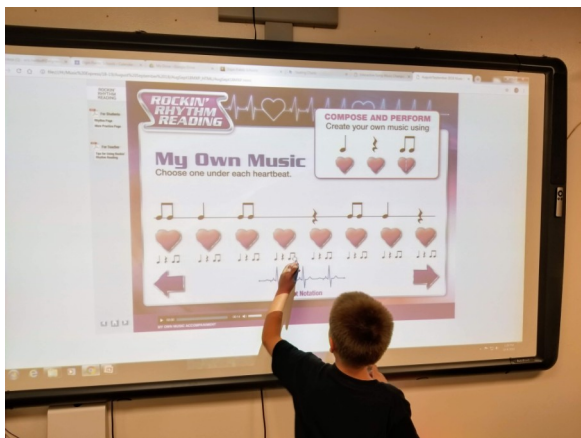
The 5th grade science students made posters about Sources of Energy and presented to the class what they had learned.

From Mrs. Borer



5th graders had a lot of fun dressing up for Homecoming week. Pictured are Sports Day costumes from left to right: Aiden, Kyndal, Jarek, and Trey.

From Mr. Heithoff



New Resource For Music Class

This year, EPS music students have been using a new resource called Music Express. This web and magazine based resource covers everything you can think of when it comes to music, from composers to rhythms, classical listening to modern pop music, and everything in between!

In this lesson, the 2nd grade all got to write their own rhythm clapping line! Everyone wrote their own unique rhythm, and then the whole class got to clap along with an accompaniment track!

From Mrs. Eisenhauer



Third Grade Learns All About Agriculture at "Life on the Farm"

The third grade class attended "Life on the Farm" in Neligh which was put on by the Nebraska Extension Agency. They learned many things about agriculture and how it has changed with the use of technology. Students rotated through sessions learning about dairy, poultry, swine, beef, irrigation, soil, corn and soybeans.

From Mr. Childers



Biology students discussed animal cells and made cake representations of them. They look delicious and educational!

From Mrs. D. Heithoff



On October 9, 2018, a team of thirteen 7th and 8th graders from Elgin Public participated in the Spalding Academy Scholastic Competition. The competition consisted of 10 area schools and approximately 120 students were in attendance.

Students chosen to represent Elgin Public were:

8th grade: Austin Good, William Heilhecker, Ethan Hinkle, Corbin Kinney, Kristopher Moreno, and Jack Wemhoff

7th grade: Nick Anderson, Baylee Busted, Keyera Eisenhauer, Brian Heithoff, Blake Henn, Myles Kittelson, and Brenna Martinsen

These students represented Elgin well. Baylee placed 1st in 7th grade English, Austin placed 1st in 8th grade Health/PE, William placed 3rd in 8th grade Math, and Ethan placed 4th in 8th grade English.

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.



**VETERANS DAY
PROGRAM SET
NOVEMBER 12, 2018
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. Vanis



The Preschoolers studied Fire Safety and the highlight of their week was a trip to the Fire Station and a ride on the fire truck!



From Mrs. McClellan



On Friday, October 12th, the morning preschoolers, kindergartners, and first graders went on a field trip to Gobs and Gobbs of Fun in Norfolk!

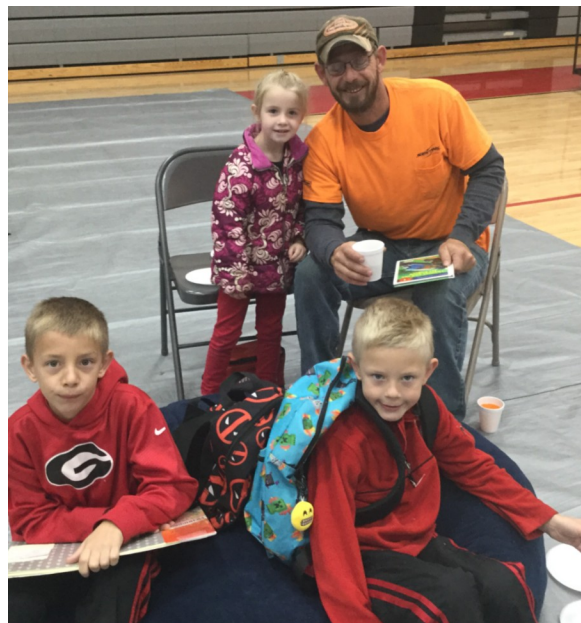
From Mrs. Wemhoff



Kindergarten Class Earns a HAPPY PARTY

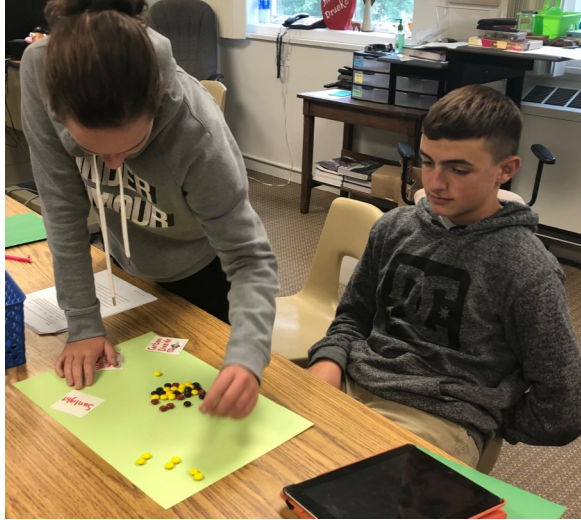
Since the first day of school the kindergarten class has been hard at work trying to earn a HAPPY PARTY. The kids earned this party by showing Mrs. Wemhoff they can make good choices inside and outside the classroom. For their party they could bring a stuffed animal friend to school to learn with them for the day. They are working hard so they earn another HAPPY PARTY soon!

From Mrs. Beckman



Second grade had a great time October 12, eating donuts and reading to their dad's. Look for more pictures later in the newsletter!

From Mrs. Drucke



Seventh Graders Demonstrate Science Concepts Using Manipulatives and Technology

The seventh graders used M & Ms to demonstrate the Law of Conservation of Mass during the processes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration. They took pictures of these processes and then inserted these pictures into a slideshow or video presentation.

From Mr. Becker



2nd grade had a blast learning how to properly ride and use scooter carts in PE!

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

The Art students would like some old 45 records for a project. Please drop off at the office if you have any to donate. And we could still use some old CD's or DVD's. Thank you! Mrs. Rita Heithoff



From Mrs. R. Heithoff

Thank you to the Bargain Box for the records!

Mrs. Heithoff and the Art students



From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher


10 FREE LEARNING WEBSITES {FOR KIDS}

Here's a list of some fun, educational, and safe websites for your child

Switcheroo Zoo www.switcheroozoo.com Watch, listen and play games to learn all about amazing animals!	Fun Brain www.funbrain.com Play games while practicing math and reading skills
Nat Geo for Kids www.kids.nationalgeographic.com Learn all about geography and fascinating animals	PBS Kids www.pbskids.org Hang out with your favorite characters all while learning!
Into the Book www.reading.ecb.org Go "into the book" to play games that practice reading strategies	Star Fall www.starfall.com Practice your phonics skills with these read-along stories
Seussville www.seussville.com Read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Seuss and his friends	Storyline Online www.storylineonline.net Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars!
ABC YA www.abcya.com Practice math and reading skills all while playing fun games!	Highlights Kids www.highlightskids.com Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments!

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.



From Mrs. Lindgren

As the first quarter ends and the second quarter begins, the math students are getting into their math routine. Geometry already covered what I consider the hardest material of the course. The rest of the curriculum builds off that material, as well as information the students have already been introduced to in previous math courses. My algebra students are building on their skill set for solving problems. Calculus students have been given their first glimpse into the power of derivatives.

Computer Science Principles students are jumping back and forth between the course curriculum and learning what is in store for the CyberPatriot competition. They are learning about three new operating systems: Windows Server 16, Debian8, and Ubuntu (the operating system for Macintosh). It is amazing how quickly they figure out how to navigate the different platforms to fix security issues. I am looking forward to seeing how they work as a team during the first official round on November 2nd-4th.

From Mrs. Zwingman

"October is a fine and dangerous season in America . . . a wonderful time to begin anything at all."



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

From Mrs. Schumake-Henn



Jr. High Volleyball Wins Title at Ewing Tournament

The junior high Pack went out on top. They concluded a successful campaign by capturing the title at the Ewing Tournament on Saturday, October 13th.

In first round action, the team defeated Neligh-Oakdale in straight sets: 25-15, 25-11.

In game two, the Pack downed OCE in two sets as well: 25-14; 25-21. In the championship game, EPPJ faced off against a scrappy O'Neill team. They claimed the victory in two close sets: 25-23, 25-21.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher



C-team received runner up trophy at the Neligh tourney on Saturday October 13th.

From Mrs. Rittscher

Digital Citizenship

In elementary guidance, the 5th graders complete a unit on Digital Citizenship. I use Netsmartz.org, but another free resource that is available not only to educators but also parents is Common Sense Media.

I combine content from both Netsmartz and Common Sense Media with a few Julia Cook's books: *But It's Just a Game*, *Cell Phoney*, & *The Technology Tail*.

The topic of Digital Citizenship is important and I cover bits and pieces of it K-6, but in 5th grade, students cover the topics of digital citizenship more in depth: internet safety, digital footprint, cyber bullying, gaming addiction, fake news, and social media etiquette.

Why 5th grade? Each year, I do a quick survey to determine which students have cell phones, play online games, or have social media accounts. In the three years I've taken my non-scientific poll, there is a percentage of 5th-grade students with access to such devices and the percentage grows considerably from 5th grade to 7th grade. As a preventive school counselor, it is important to have conversations about digital behaviors prior to a large percentage of students having access.

To keep our students safe, it is not only important to talk about the dangers and risky behaviors of social media, online gaming, and such, but it is also important to talk about the health issues. Young people need our help in learning to balance online activity. Too much screen time can be unhealthy both mentally and physically.

It is also important to consider all of the "types" of screen time: passive consumption like watching TV, reading, and listening to music; interactive consumption like playing games and browsing the Internet; communication like texting, video-chatting, and using social media; and content creation, which is using devices to make a product like digital art or music. (List taken from commonsensemedia.org.)

The 5th graders are currently keeping a weekly schedule in which they keep track of how they spend their time outside of school. We will then create pie graphs that illustrate each students' screen time verses non-screen time. The illustration will be a good conversation starter for our class and for parents!

From Mrs. Schwartz

Theanna Dunn shows off her SMAW weld. Students enrolled in Welding have been learning how to strike the arc and weld a flat bead using 6013 electrodes and 3/16" flat iron. Many, including Theanna are now moved on to welding lap welds. Other welds such as butt and t-welds will be on the list of welds to complete before the semester ends.





NEBRASKA STUDENTS RANK HIGH COMPARED TO PEER STATES ON ACT

Nebraska achievement levels kept pace with the national average on the ACT entrance exam that measures college readiness in English, reading, mathematics, and science.

This was the first year nearly 100% of graduates took the ACT as part of a statewide assessment. Nebraska started offering the ACT for free to all juniors in 2017. Nebraska's average 2018 ACT composite score is 20.1. The national average is 20.8 but nationally only 55% of students take the ACT.

Of the 17 states with 100% percent or more graduates taking the ACT, only Kentucky, Ohio, Utah and Wisconsin scored better. This is significant. States that test a high percentage of graduates tend to have lower averages as the scores include more students who are not on a college course-taking track.

As expected the state average was lower than last year's score of 21.4. The drop was anticipated due to the increase in the number of students taking the ACT. The number of graduating seniors who took the ACT rose by more than 5,500 up from 18,993 in 2017 to 24,516 in 2018. The highest possible ACT score is 36.

The following are among the other key findings from this year's Nebraska ACT data:

Nebraska scores fell evenly across all four ACT subject areas. Students scored an average of 19.4 in English compared to 20.9 in 2017 and 20.2 nationally. In reading Nebraska students scored an average of 20.4 compared to 21.9 in 2017 and 21.3 nationally. In math Nebraska students scored an average of 19.8 compared to 20.9 in 2017 and 20.5 nationally. And in science Nebraska students scored an average of 20.1 compared to 21.5 in 2017 and 20.7 nationally.

	NEBRASKA 2018	NEBRASKA 2017	NATIONAL 2018
ENGLISH	19.4	20.9	20.2
READING	20.4	21.9	21.3
MATH	19.8	20.9	20.5
SCIENCE	20.1	21.5	20.7

Compared to the 17 states where 100% of graduates took the ACT, Nebraska had the 4th highest percent of students meeting the ACT English, math and science benchmarks and the 8th highest percent of students meeting the reading benchmark.

81% of students who took the ACT have postsecondary education plans.

Nebraska's STEM score—a combined measure of math and science designed to predict readiness for success in STEM majors in college—is close to the national average (20.2 versus 20.9) and down from the 2017 state score of 21.5.

Nebraska achievement gaps between Hispanic and African American students and their white and Asian American counterparts remain substantial. While 41 percent of Asian American students and 42 percent of white students showed strong readiness for college coursework, just 15 percent of Hispanic students and only 7 percent of African American students earned that same level of achievement.

The national and state ACT *Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018* reports can be viewed and downloaded on the ACT website at: <http://www.act.org/condition2018>

Administratively Speaking . . .

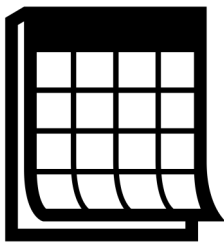
By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



I can't believe it is already late October (the time of writing this). I know it can't, but time TRULY does seem to move faster and faster. We are a little over one quarter of the way through the school year, my 7th in Elgin, and things are as vibrant as ever. Changes in security are already old news as our campus is more controlled and safer---for students and staff.

We have had several new students come to us this semester and at this time I would like to say officially WELCOME to the Elgin Public Schools. High expectations and high standards are not easy to establish, let alone maintain; but I think from the school board down we have them here at EPS. Sometimes to the point we forget we ARE dealing with CHILDREN, and the best way we human beings learn is to make mistakes or bad decisions. This occurs from and through our childhood and even into adulthood. Mistakes and bad decisions are some of the best ways of learning that can take place. We all need to remember that so we don't get too carried away with our high standards that we miss the fact that we are here to help them learn and to help them get to those standards. Expecting them and loving, caring, modeling, instructing and inspiring students to help them to get there are two VERY, VERY different things. Hopefully we are doing more of the latter than the former. If you ever have any questions about EPS, in any regard, please feel free to give us a call. Here's to hoping you have a tremendous fall! GO EAGLES.....

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



EPS Calendar Change!

Elgin Public School will be hosting NVC One-Act performances in our gym on November 13th. Grades 7-12 will not have school on that day.

Elementary (Grades Prek-6th) will have school as a normal school day. No breakfast will be served and lunch will be a sack lunch prepared by the school lunch program. Menu is

Turkey ham club sandwich, carrots/celery sticks with ranch & peanut butter cups, Ritz bits crackers, & raisins.

If you enjoy theater, stop by the Elgin Public School gym for some great One-Act performances! You won't be disappointed.

HOMECOMING FUN!



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