



EAGLE UPDATE

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October, 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER



October 13
Donuts with Dad
7:30 am



October 12
School Board
Meeting
7:30 pm in the ITV
Room



October 14
End of First
Quarter



October 17
NO SCHOOL



October 18
Sophomore Career
Day
WSC

DONUTS FOR DADS

Thursday, October 13th, 2016
at 7:30 AM

Please join us in the gymnasium for juice, milk, donuts
and some reading before school.

**** If dad cannot attend you can find a substitute ****



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



English 12 "Fake"book Profile



Anyone who has ever studied Greek mythology knows the antics of the characters can be summed up in one word—*drama*. What better place to air all of the dirty laundry of the gods and goddesses than social media? That's exactly what EPS English 12 students have been up to.

As a brief review before delving head first into *The Odyssey*, the students helped to create Mrs. Shoe's latest bulletin board titled "What if Zeus Had Facebook . . ."

Highlights of the activity included his relationship status, "friends" list, frequent status updates, and his millions of friend requests, messages, and notifications. It really is tough being the king of the gods.

Preschool Stories



The afternoon group of preschoolers were treated to stories from some of the students in Mrs. Shoe's Speech class. Here Myranda Palmer is shown with the Three Year Old Group.

Soybean Board Visits 4th Grade



Janie Score from the Nebraska Soybean Board came and visited the 4th grade class.

Smart Tables



The preschoolers are enjoying Smart Tables this year. With the purchase of two Smart Tables we are able to reinforce the skills learned during the school day. The Smart Tables combine learning and play to inspire center-based learning and active collaboration. It's a great way to enhance the social and academic skills of active learners and help all students achieve success. They are excited to learn their numbers, letters, writing and social skills. It is a great way to excite young learners and help them grow together, both socially and academically.

Lunch Gift Certificates Second Grade Happenings

Gift Certificates can now be purchased for **Free Lunch** for staff. Free Lunch gift certificates are a great way to thank teachers and staff members. Gift Certificates sell for \$3.00/certificate (lunch price). A variety of certificates are available: Happy Birthday, Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Thank You and Just Because. Personalized certificates can be created upon request. If you would like to purchase a gift certificate you may call the school or email Anney at anney.beckman@elgineagles.org. If funds are available in your lunch account you may deduct the certificate and have it delivered to the staff member. If you would like to personally deliver the certificate you can purchase the certificate and have it sent home with a student or you may pick it up in the office.



Our school year is off to a busy start with fourteen active second graders. In math we have reviewed basic place value using ones and tens, used problem solving strategies of acting it out or using logical reasoning, and worked with patterns and shapes. We continue to work on our addition facts. In language arts we are writing paragraphs. We have written five paragraphs and are making sure our sentences have a subject, a predicate, begin with a capital, and have an ending mark. Our paragraphs start with a topic sentence, have several detail sentences and end with a closing sentence! We have learned 3 different types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, and exclamatory. Everyone is working hard to improve their reading skills, to help them read fluently they need to track words with their finger. Although it's still a month away the second grade is very excited for the upcoming holiday, Halloween!



From Mrs. Klein

El Mundo de Español

There are several reasons I can give to advocate studying a foreign language. Some of my top reasons are summed up in the article *Great Courses: Foreign Languages* by: *Matthew Tabor*. You can find the entire article at bestcolleges.com. Following is a summary of his thoughts.

- 1.From Grammar to Vocabulary, Foreign Language Boosts Your Native Tongue
- 2.A Second Language Expands Your Life
- 3.There's Money In It
- 4.Languages Keep Your Brain Young



From Mr. Eisenhauer

High Ability Learners



This year Mr.Eisenhauer has started a new program for 4-6th grade students. It is called the HAL (High Ability Learners) program. This year we had 5 students eligible: Keyera Eisenhauer, Baylee Busteed, Ethan Hinkle, William Heilhecker, and Jack Wemhoff.

Reusable Clay and Language Class



When you hear the word “clay,” you think of Art class. However, the third graders made reusable clay in Language class. They have been learning how to follow steps/directions in Language. They had to read a recipe for reusable clay and answer questions with statement sentences. As a reward for working hard in class, Mrs. Eisenhauer brought the ingredients for the students to make their own clay. The students mixed flour, salt, vegetable oil, water and food coloring to make their clay. They chose red food coloring but the clay turned out more of a pink color. So they learned next time to add more food coloring to get the desired color. Students were able to take home a baggie of their own clay and also the recipe for future making.

Apples, Apples Everywhere!

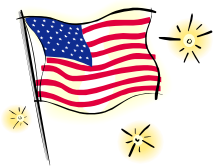


The Kindergarten and First Graders visited Officer Schultz's house on September 13th to pick some apples for upcoming projects.

September 11th



On September 12th, students took part in the 15th anniversary of September 11th. After some technical difficulties we were able to watch the live webcast from the National 9/11 Memorial Museum. We listened to a survivor talk about her experience of that day as a Principal of a high school close to the World Trade Centers. We also took a virtual tour of the museum. Some students had visited the Museum in person last summer. On Friday September 16th, and Monday September 19th, some classes celebrated Constitution Day with trivia, discussions, reading, and summarizing our Nation's Constitution.



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM SET NOVEMBER 11, 2016 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. Heithoff

From Mr. Becker

School Pictures

PE Fun



3rd and 4th graders were having fun learning about Volleyball in PE class.

Check out the class pictures for all of the grades on the webpage! Go to "Students-Group Photos" to see how great everyone looked on Picture Day.

From Mr. Coakes

From Mrs. Zwingman

Earth Science

Study Tips from the Resource Room

- Start with the most difficult subject first.
- Set a goal for what you want to accomplish.
- Don't cram everything in at one time.



The 8th grade Earth Science class has been learning about maps for the past week. Here students are taking measurements from around the room to create a scaled down version that will fit exactly on one sheet of paper. Students had to carefully measure so that the room maintained its correct dimensions as well as convert so the map could have an accurate legend.

Are Students Getting Enough Sleep?

You may have seen a chart recently on Facebook, discussing the number of hours that children need to sleep in order to be the most productive during the day. We all want our students to be healthy and able to do their best. Take a look at the chart and see if your student is getting enough rest at night!

AGE	Wake-up time						
	6:00AM	6:15AM	6:30AM	6:45AM	7:00AM	7:15AM	7:30AM
	Bed time						
5	6:45PM	7:00PM	7:15PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:15PM
6	7:00PM	7:15PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:15PM	8:30PM
7	7:15PM	7:15PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM
8	7:30PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM	9:00PM
9	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM	9:00PM	9:15PM
10	8:00PM	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM	9:00PM	9:15PM	9:30PM
11	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM	9:00PM	9:15PM	9:30PM	9:45PM
12	8:15PM	8:30PM	8:45PM	9:00PM	9:15PM	9:30PM	9:45PM

From Mrs. Lindgren

From Mr. Heithoff

Math Happenings

Mrs. Lindgren's students have been working hard and have shown that they are up for the challenge of this year's math class. Algebra I students are working hard to internalize the basics of solving equations. Advanced Algebra students are discovering how to use matrices to solve systems of equations. Geometry students are learning about logic and proofs. College Algebra students are using graphs, tables, and equations to solve problems. Calculus students are reviewing trigonometric concepts. The digital media students have each created a story that only has 6 words, but images help portray the message!



Eagle Music Chugging Along

The EPS music program is chugging along, quite literally! The high school band is working on a piece called *The Great Locomotive Chase*. Based on actual events, the song portrays the theft of a train by the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and the ensuing chase by the Union Army in a different train! The 5th grade is also in the mix now, with seven new students starting band instruments this fall. Things are looking up as we continue to grow! Here are some important musical dates to mark on your calendar:



- November 4th**– EV Junior High Choral Clinic– 5:30 pm
- November 7**– NVC Choir at Lynch– 7:00 pm
- December 15th**– Elementary Christmas Concert– 7:00 pm
- December 20th**– 7-12 Christmas Concert– 7:00 pm

From Mrs. Heithoff

"Math"upational Hazard

According to Occupational Outlook Quarterly as quoted by Robert Blitzer in Math For Your World,



"It is better to take what may seem to be too much math rather than too little. Career plans change, and one of the biggest roadblocks in undertaking new educational or training goals is poor preparation in mathematics. Furthermore, not only do people qualify for more jobs with more math, they are also better able to perform their jobs."

From Mrs. Borer

Elementary Student Council



This is the first year of elementary having a student council. Three fourth graders, three fifth graders, and three sixth graders have been elected. In order to be on the ballot they had to make a poster and give a speech to their classmates. The student council's first tasks are planning for Homecoming and Halloween.

Back row (l to r): Ethan Hinkle (6th), Sara Bode (4th), Baylee Busteed (5th), Blake Henn (5th), Keyera Eisenhauer (5th)
Front row (l to r): William Heilhecker (6th), Jackson Wemhoff (6th), Callie Heithoff (4th), Kate Furstenu (4th)

From Mrs. Borer

Traveling Pets

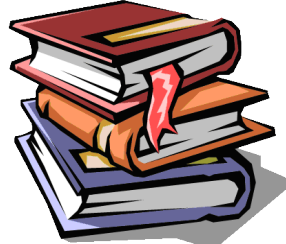


The fifth graders are having two travel pets this year. Edwin, an eagle, has been to Arizona and is in Mexico. Champ, a wolf, has just arrived in Peru. The students will be learning everything that they can from the generous people that are willing to take these pets places for us.

From Mrs. Druke

Summer Reading Challenge

Before checking out for the summer last school year, students in grades 6-8 were issued a reading challenge. They were given the goal of reading 1,000 pages over summer break. We would like congratulate Olivia Lindgren, Wyatt Renner, Theanna Dunn, Jordan Lindgren, Trinity Graham, and Jeslynn Beckman on meeting this goal. To celebrate their efforts, they will be treated to a special lunch and given prizes.



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

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

From Mrs. Rittscher

It's FAFSA time!

Beginning October 1, you and your parents can complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Follow these tips to prepare:

Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID for you and one for a parent at fsaid.ed.gov. You and a parent will each need an FSA ID to access and sign the FAFSA.

Attend an EducationQuest Financial Aid Program (FAP) to learn about the FAFSA and the financial aid process. If you attend, *you'll be eligible to register for a \$500 scholarship!* FAPs will be held at high schools across the state.

Review the FAFSA Checklist at EducationQuest.org to determine items you'll need to complete the FAFSA.

See FAFSA Tools at EducationQuest.org for helpful resources.



Speech Students Demo Skills

This semester the speech students have had many irons in the fire. From learning about the communication process to delivering impromptu speeches to reading to the lower elementary classes, it seems like they are constantly on the move. However, all of these activities have been preparing them for their first formal speech.

This week, Mrs. Shoe's speechsters are in the midst of delivering demonstrative speeches. Each student has chosen a skill he/she feels comfortable teaching the class. After creating a formal introduction and conclusion, the students created lists of items they would need as well as steps they would demonstrate for class.



Skills being honed include oil changes, tire changes, car detailing, make-up application, painting, scrapbooking, athletic skills and even some culinary masterpieces. Not only are audience members working on being effective listeners, but hopefully they are picking up some skills as well.



Is there money in your lunch account?

You should maintain a positive balance throughout the school year. Let's help to keep our costs of postage down by paying in advance for meals. Thank you!

F rom the desk of the Superintendent . . .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



This is the time of year when government entities do their budgets and set tax requests for the year. It is always a busy and stressful time for people in charge of those tasks and duties. It is also a very negative time in the state of Nebraska due to the burden of taxes on the taxpayer.

One of the things I have learned is that any tax is too much tax to most taxpayers. Elgin public Schools is blessed with a large valuation, and in comparison with every district I have worked in throughout my 26 year career in education, pays far lower taxes than any of them for their public school. Not only that, but due to the conservative fiscal nature of our board and the influx of wind tower taxes, Elgin Public Schools District #18 will LOWER its TAX ASKING for the second straight year. It will also allow the school to operate for several years below the tax asking that was required for the 2013-2014 school year. That is almost unheard of in the world of property tax and school tax asking of its patrons. Those who own land in other districts already know what the majority of Nebraska land owners pay in property tax for most districts and it's many times double, if not triple what is paid in district 18.

We are blessed to have a high valuation, low taxes and a conservative board that also understands we need and want an attractive, functional, successful school for our youth. Elgin enjoys a great school with quality facilities, staff and programs with up to date equipment and digital learning. We also have an attractive, safe and functional campus. Knowing that, you can relish in the fact that its operation requires a lower tax levy than 238 or so other public schools in the state (last I knew there were only 243). We thank you for your continued support, GO EAGLES!!!

Future of Ag Campaign Kicks Off

September marks the official start of the seventh annual I Believe in the Future of Ag fundraising campaign. This campaign serves as an outlet for local FFA chapters to raise money for innovative projects in their classrooms, leadership programming, community service projects and field trips to advance agriculture education in their schools.

From Mrs. Schwartz

This year, Aurora Cooperative, BigIron Auctions, Central Valley Ag, CPI, DEKALB/Asgrow and Verdesian committed \$20,000 each to the campaign. Other sponsors, contributing \$10,000 each, include: Bayer CropScience, CoBank, Country Partners Cooperative, CHS Foundation, GrainBridge, FMC, Farm Credit Services of America, Farmers Cooperative, First National Bank Omaha, Frontier Coop, Koch Fertilizer, Lindsay Corporation, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Pinnacle Bank, Producers Livestock, Valley Irrigation and WinField Solutions.

100 percent of each local donation will be sent back to the designated chapter at the end of the campaign and the Nebraska FFA Foundation, along with its corporate partners, will provide extra incentives to participating FFA chapters. This year, \$35,000 in matching funds will be distributed to participating chapters.

"Agriculture is the lifeblood of this state with one in three jobs based in agriculture. We see this campaign as integral part of local FFA chapters and the future of agriculture by providing funds to develop a rich program of activities benefiting students, their local communities and their future," says Stacey Agnew, Nebraska FFA Foundation Executive Director.

About the Nebraska FFA Foundation

The mission of the Nebraska FFA Foundation is to enhance quality education/FFA programs in order to achieve excellence in leadership development, curriculum innovation and scholastic advancement of students. For more information, visit neffafoundation.org.

If you would like to donate to the Elgin FFA Chapter through the campaign, contact Mrs. Schwartz at Elgin Public Schools or talk to any Elgin FFA member. Donation cards will be made available at The Bank of Elgin, Jerry's Feed Service and CVA Lumber. Cards will also be at the Feed the Farmer lunch October 7th at CVA Lumber and during the Labor Auction after the L/C vs. EPPJ football game on October 7th. Thank you in advance for all your support of this wonderful organization.



F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



MAP TESTING

MAP Assessment Frequently Asked Questions

What are MAP assessments?

MAP stands for "Measuring Academic Progress"

MAP "Fits the test to the student, not the student to the test"

MAP provides differentiated assessment data to find the instructional level of all students

MAP provides accurate and reliable assessment data across a common and stable scale
(like a ruler or yardstick)

MAP gives teachers additional information to help make decisions about your child's education

What are the main features of MAP testing?

MAP testing is "computer adaptive" meaning that questions will adapt to the student's achievement level

MAP tests are not timed, students may take as much time as they need

MAP measures and reports student growth over time.

What subject areas do MAP assessments measure?

Reading

Mathematics

Language Usage

General Science

Science Concepts and Processes

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