







## DATES TO REMEMBER

 Oct. 2  
 School Picture Retakes

 Oct. 9  
 Early Dismissal  
 1:00 p.m.

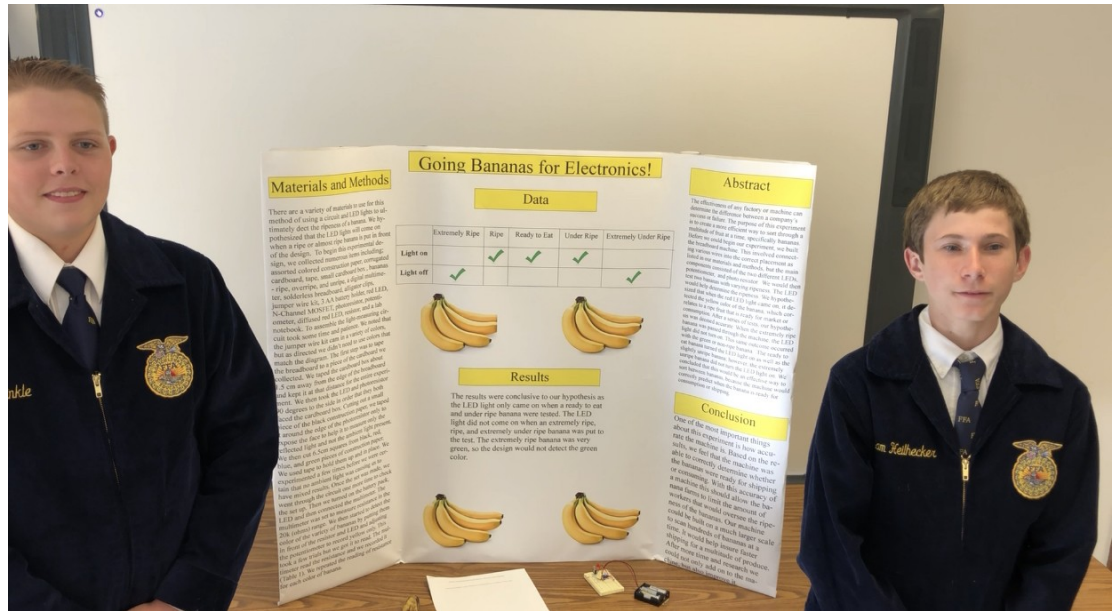
 Oct. 14  
 School Board Mtg.  
 7:30 p.m.  
 EPS gym

 Oct. 15  
 End of 1st Quarter

 Oct. 16  
 NO School  
 Teacher Inservice

# FFA STATE AGRISCIENCE WINNERS

From Mrs. Schwartz



*Ethan Hinkle (l) and William Heilhecker (r) are shown with their award-winning Agriscience Fair Project.*

Despite school closures across the nation, FFA members were still able to 'virtually' participate in Nebraska's State FFA contests this past summer. Ethan Hinkle and William Heilhecker had their Agriscience Fair project selected as the state winner in the Power, Structure, and Technical Systems Division 4 area during the virtual state convention this past summer. The state winners across the nation then had their project sent on for review at the national level.

Recently, Ethan and William found out they were national finalists for the now virtual 93rd National FFA Convention in October. After a video submission of them presenting their project, the boys will be notified early in October if they will be in the top three at this level and receive an invitation to participate in a live, virtual broadcast announcing the winners.

Congratulations to Ethan Hinkle and William Heilhecker on their 1st place State project. Good luck in your national competition!



*Check our website for the most current news and calendar:  
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)*



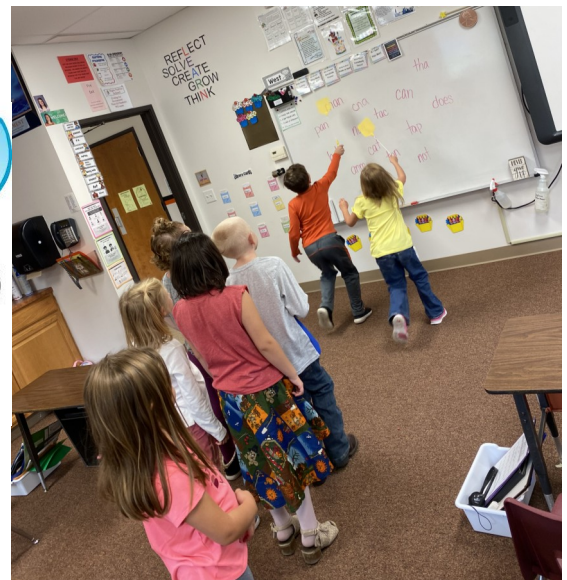
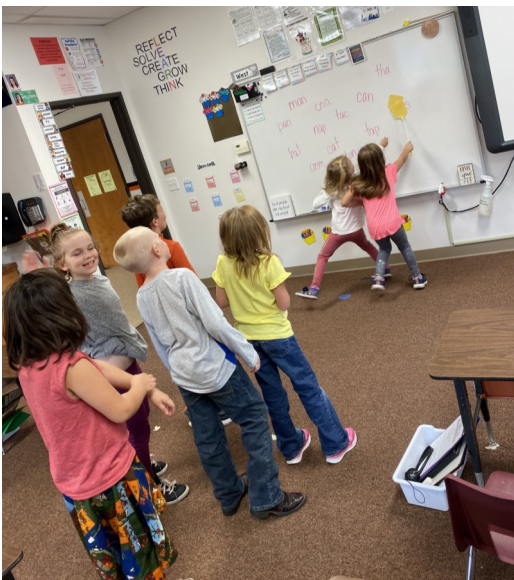
# Super Summer Readers in 3rd grade!



*Pictured left to right: Braxtyn Eisenhauer, Levi Scheer, Tenley Schindler, Aurora Burke, Garrett Busted, Xander Richardson, Cael Bottorf, and Sheamus McClain*

Congratulations to the 3rd graders who completed their summer reading book chains! They will be rewarded with a movie night and snacks in the near future. Way to read, 3rd graders!

# Swat That Word



First Grade found a new way to practice their spelling words! Students are racing to “swat” the spelling word that is spelled correctly to win their team a point. It’s a fierce battle to swat it first and a great way to practice spelling!

# Concussion Protocols- Return to Learn and Return to Play

## Concussion Protocol

What is a Concussion? - A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury—or TBI—caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. This sudden movement can cause the brain to bounce around or twist in the skull, creating chemical changes in the brain and sometimes stretching and damaging brain cells. (CDC.gov)

What are some signs and symptoms of a concussion?

- Difficulty thinking clearly/concentration
- Feeling slowed down
- Headache
- Nausea
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Balance problems
- More emotional than normal



What should you do if you suspect you or someone around you has a concussion?

- Tell a coach or sponsor. Never ignore the symptoms.
- Immediately remove them from their activity
- Seek evaluation from a licensed health care professional

WHEN IN DOUBT SIT THEM OUT!

-All coaches and sponsors are required by the state of Nebraska to remove any individual from competition if they suspect that they have a concussion. If a student has been suspected of having a concussion they must be evaluated by a health care professional before they are allowed to participate again.

Return to Play

-There are 6 stages a student must go through before they may return to any competition.

Stage 1-No activity until all symptoms are gone.

Stage 2-Light aerobic activity such as brisk walking or light jogging

Stage 3-Sport specific exercises

Stage 4- Non-Contact training drills

-Must have clearance from a qualified health care professional before moving to stage 5.

Stage 5-Full contact practice

Stage 6-Resume competition

Return to Learn Protocol

-Any student who is diagnosed with a concussion will be started in the return to learn protocol in the classroom. This allows modifications to be made for the student if they need any changes in the classroom setting to help with the recovery of a concussion. Some examples of this are: Possible reduced screen time if computer screens cause symptoms or extended completion time of homework depending on how severe the concussion is. These modifications can be extended until the student has been cleared by a qualified licensed health professional.

If anyone has any questions or would like additional material with concussion information please contact Mr. Becker and he can help you.

# Google Sheets

From Mr. Mlinar



7th graders are working hard on spreadsheets! Rows, columns, formulas, charts, and more in Google Sheets!

## ***OCTOBER 9 - EARLY DISMISSAL***

*Due to the afternoon football game at Riverside (Spalding), Elgin Public School will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. that day. Buses will run accordingly*

# Free Meals Offered



The USDA has decided to extend the summer foods program through the school systems. It has now informed us that we are able to go back to the first day of school to allow students to receive free meals. This means that ALL students at Elgin Public School will receive free meals (breakfast and lunch) beginning retroactively to August 13<sup>th</sup> (the first day of school) and continuing on until December 31<sup>st</sup> unless USDA funds run out before then.

If you purchased meals (breakfast or lunch) between August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup>, the money will be returned to your family account to be used for meals after December 31<sup>st</sup>. Second helpings or extra milk are not free. If a student receives seconds or extra milks, those will be charged to your family account.

Children need healthy meals to learn so this is great news and we hope that ALL students will take advantage of this opportunity to receive a free breakfast and a free lunch each day.

# Wolfpack FUNdamentals!

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn



In addition to working on their skills daily, the EPPJ jr. high volleyball team has been entertaining themselves by sporting a new hair style at practice each day. Recently they declared "High Bun Day." The team has been competing well and has so far picked up wins against Fullerton, Summerland, and Neligh-Oakdale. Keep up the good work, Pack!

# The Start of EHCC

From Mrs. Borer

There is a new extra-curricular organization at EPS! What was formerly FCCLA is now EHCC (Elgin High Community Club). EHCC is a student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. Our mission is to help and serve the community of Elgin. FCCLA already provided a lot for the community. To start, EHCC will continue to do the annual community events that FCCLA participated in previously. That includes serving food at the Elgin Show and Shine/Treasures in the Park in September, serving food at the bank appreciation dinner, helping little shoppers at Kids Shopping Night in December, and selling candy grams in February. We hope to add more events based on the needs of the community, what we are asked to participate in, and what the students are able to do.



There are some changes from FCCLA to EHCC. There will be no district, state, or national projects or competitions, students will not pay dues, and there will be no officers. We want everyone to participate equally and enjoy serving the community where they go to school. Last year's FCCLA members decided on the new name of our group and changed our color from red to purple.

This year we have 24 members in grades 7-12 and the adviser is Crystal Borer. We are excited to get involved and see what opportunities the year brings!

# EHCC Works First Event

From Mrs. Borer



Elgin High Community Club worked its first event of the year at the Elgin Show & Shine/Treasures in the Park. We held a food stand serving burgers, chips, and desserts. Pictured (l to r) are just a few of our members: Kyndal, Kayton, Taylor (sitting), Trey, Kaeden, Jarek, Alison, Austin.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

There's no such thing as  
"too old"  
for reading aloud.

Even independent readers  
benefit greatly from  
reading aloud  
with a loved one.



Read Aloud  
15 MINUTES

# CyberPatriot

From Mrs. Lindgren

If you come into room 203 right now, you might wonder whether it is a math room or a computer lab.

I have set up 4 computer stations around the room. The training has begun for this year's CyberPatriot competition! These have virtual images for Windows 10, Windows Server 2016, or Ubuntu. The students have picked the system they want to work on, and everyone has spent some time working on at least one system. The goal is to find and eliminate security vulnerabilities. You can find out more about the competition at [uscypatriot.org](http://uscypatriot.org)!

I have also been getting familiar with a new touch-screen interactive whiteboard. I am thankful that my students are patient, since writing on this new surface can be a challenge! It is portable, so if I want to re-arrange my classroom later, I can move that to a different spot in the room easily! I have a laptop connected to the whiteboard to make saving files much easier!

Fun Math Fact: Did you know that when you multiply 111,111,111 by 111,111,111, the product is 12,345,678,987,654,321? Notice the sequence of the numbers 1 to 9 and back to 1.

From Mrs. Rittscher



Check out Mrs. Rittscher's posts on Eagle Watch on the EPS Website. It houses resources for families about risky behaviors, trends, and challenges. It is located under the School Counselor tab.

Stop the spread of germs  
that can make you and others sick!



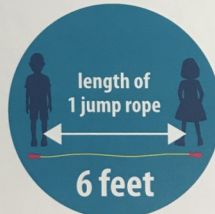
Wash your  
hands often



Wear a cloth  
face cover



Cover your coughs  
and sneezes



Keep **6 feet** of space  
between you and  
your friends



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## WANTED: Pringles Cans

From Mrs. R. Heithoff



The Art students are running low on Pringle cans. If anyone has any to donate please send them to school with your child. We use them to hold each Art student's supplies in grades 2-12.

# Noise Pollution Posters

From Mr. Eisenhauer



Sixth Graders display their Noise Pollution posters. Pictured starting in the front (left to right) Lillianne Kinney, Braelyn Martinsen, Tristen Mortensen, Rylen Schwarting, Megan Wright, Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Sadie Thiessen, Danyka Smidt, Gemma Miller, Wyatt Paul, Alex Moscoso, Libby Evans, Baylee Chessmore, Ruby Durre, Kyla Donaldson, Justice Blecher, and Gavin Harkins.

# All Things Matter

From Mrs. Druke



Pictured are (l. to r.) Trey Rittscher, Halle Lueking, and Jarek Erickson.

The seventh graders just finished up a unit on matter. Some of the material we covered in this unit were atoms, elements, molecules, and even chemical reactions. Balancing simple chemical equations was a fun challenge. The students are now able to compare and contrast chemical and physical properties.

During a few labs, we observed signs of a chemical reaction. We are now going to take this knowledge of matter and discover how it supports all of life on Earth.

## **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.

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# #BeKind



## **Update Your Contact Info**

Please take a moment to update your contact information on JMC. You'll be glad that you did! Snow cancellations are not that far away and we don't want you to miss important weather related messages!

From Mrs. Beckman

## Second Grade Summer Readers



The second grade was challenged to read over the summer. These students completed the challenge and earned a movie night this fall; Ryker Lammers, Charles Miller, Mollie Murphy, McKenna Sauser, Allie Sheer and Ashlyn Tillis. Thanks for reading over the summer.

**More Zzz's please!**  
How many hours of sleep does your child need nightly?

| Age Group       | Hours of Sleep |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Preschool       | 11-13 HOURS    |
| Elementary      | 9-12 HOURS     |
| Adolescent/Teen | 8-9 HOURS      |

**FYI Your child should...**

- fall asleep within 15-30 minutes of going to bed.
- not need continual reminders to wake up.
- be alert in the morning.
- not need excessive naps.

**Tips For better sleep, avoid...**

- television and screen time one hour prior to bedtime.
- exercise close to bedtime.
- late-day food/drinks with caffeine (cocoa, tea).
- toys in the bed (they distract from sleep).

**3 WAYS Help your kid rest easy.**

- 1 Establish a routine for everyone (that means parents, too).
- 2 Have consistent bedtimes and wake-up times.
- 3 Simplify schedules.

**Why Benefits of good sleep.**

- better concentration and performance
- increased alertness
- less moody

**Marshfield Clinic**  
Don't just live. Shine.

## Drone Pilots In-Training

From Mr. Childers



Austin Good & William Heilhecker have begun their training as Drone pilots. Under the direction of Mr. Childers, the students have taken some interesting photos & videos of Elgin and the Elgin Car Show.



*Drone view from above the Elgin Car Show.*



# F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff  
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



The year is off and running! We are now a little over a month into the school year and everything seems to be going well. On August 13<sup>th</sup> students arrived and we began our journey through the 2020-2021 school year. Since then students and teachers have been diligently working on all their classes. I have been very proud of the effort of the students and teachers to this point. We have five new members to the EPS team. Mr. Brockhaus is our new Superintendent and is doing a great job. We have two new classroom teachers this year. Mr. Brandon Callahan is our new Social Studies teacher and Ms. Haley Guenther will be teaching Spanish. We have also hired Mrs. Shanda Schindler as a Paraeducator and Mr. Jeff Cuffe is now a member of our custodial staff. Welcome to all of you. All of you will be great assets to our school. It's a great place to be and we are happy you are here.

We have several important dates and activities occurring during this time of the year such as Parent-Teacher Conferences. Thank you, parents, for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend our Parent-Teacher Conferences this year. The first of our MAP testing has been completed. MAP tests are standardized test to help us assess how our students and school is performing relative to other schools across the country. The MAP program takes the students fall score and grade level and tells us how much our students have improved from the fall to late winter. It is a great tool for our teachers and students to see areas the students need to improve on and areas that the students are excelling.

Now here's a look ahead at some important school related dates coming up for the rest of the semester. An important week coming up is the week of September 27<sup>th</sup>; it's Homecoming week! We will be holding many festivities typically associate with Homecoming, Coronation of this year's King and Queen will be announced on Wednesday night September 30<sup>th</sup> at the EPS gymnasium at 7:00 sharp. October 17<sup>th</sup> marks the end of the first quarter, no school on October 18<sup>th</sup> as teachers will have an in-service on that day.

We always have a lot of events and activities going on at EPS. Please take time to look at the monthly calendar at <http://www.elgineagles.org/> to stay informed and as always feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

GO EAGLES!!!

## Picture Retakes

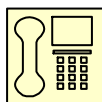
If you missed school picture day or you need your picture retaken, please mark your calendar for Friday, Oct. 2nd.

If your child is in the afternoon preschool, please call the school to arrange a time for a retake since afternoon preschoolers aren't at school on Friday.



*Check our website for the  
most current news  
and calendar:  
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)*

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## **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.

# F rom the desk of the Superintendent . . .

By Mike Brockhaus  
mike.brockhaus@elgineagles.org



As of this writing, Elgin Public Schools are still open and the students are in the buildings!! In the past this would have been the expectation each year, but 2020 is the exception when it comes to students in school buildings and activities taking place. Our staff and students are doing a good job of working to stay safe utilizing hand sanitizer in each classroom, taking temperatures multiple times a day, and wearing masks and face coverings when asked to. We need to continue to work together to make sure that our students and staff are safe and in the buildings and that our activities can take place with safety for all in mind. We have had two mottos going at the same time at Elgin Public with the staff: “One day at a time” and “1% better each day”. With these two mindsets we will continue to strive to do what is best for our students to keep them safe in the school buildings and the days running as smoothly as possible.

On another positive note....the USDA has announced that they will fund free breakfasts and lunches for all students in PK-12 schools retroactively going back to August 13th (our first day of meals) and Elgin Public Schools will participate in this program. This funding will last until December 31 or until the funds are depleted. Students will have to pay for extra milk or seconds on a meal. Any funds that families have put into their accounts since August 13th will be kept in their accounts retroactive back to August 13th and will be used once the USDA funds are depleted or after December 31, whichever happens first. This is a great program which will benefit all our students at Elgin Public Schools. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact Superintendent Mr. Brockhaus at the school office at 402-843-2455.

*Check our website for the most current news  
and calendar:  
[www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org)*

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