



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
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Volume XXX, Issue 2

September, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER



Sept. 1
NO SCHOOL
 Labor Day



Sept. 8
LifeTouch Studios
 School Pictures



School Board Mtg.
 in ITV Room
 7:30 p.m.



Sept. 16
Early Dismissal—
 1:00 p.m.
Parent-Teacher
 Conferences



Sept. 17
Late Start—
 10:00 a.m.



EPS STUDENTS TOUR EAST COAST

The seniors had a fantastic time this summer. We experienced what could be a once in a lifetime experience in Washington D.C. and New York City.

In Washington we saw places such as the Capitol, Washington Monument, Vietnam Wall, Arlington National Cemetery, and many more historical places. When we visited the Capitol Building, our tour guide Steve Kline was able to find tickets for all of us to actually get a tour within the building. In the Capital building, we saw many statues of important figures throughout the United States history. The Arlington National Cemetery was an amazing place. All the headstones in the cemetery were all lined up no matter what angle we looked at them. We also witnessed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The guards

are right on time and every single movement was right on cue. It was a very prestigious event to observe. Washington D.C. was a very beautiful place to visit, but our trip was only half over.

We were in Washington for a day and a half, and then we bussed five hours to New York City. During our day and a half stay in the Big Apple, we visited Ground Zero, the Statue of Liberty, a Broadway show, "Mama Mia", and even the top of the Empire State Building. The Broadway show was one of the highlights of New York City, but the Empire State Building probably has the Broadway show beat. We were able to go up eighty-four stories and look out over the city. From the Empire State Building, we were able to view the new World Trade Center, the Statue of Liberty, and the Hudson Harbor. The new World Trade Center was so tall that the clouds covered the top of the building! New York City was definitely a sight to see. By the last day, we were all pretty worn down. It was a crazy and fun adventure on the East Coast, but we were all ready to come back to the good life.

We would like to thank the Elgin Public School and school board for allowing us to go on this venture. Also thanks to our sponsors, Mrs. Bode and Mr. Prater for supervising us. Without all their help the trip would not have been possible. Again, thanks to everyone who helped us! It was great!



Students on the trip were: Hayley Stamp, Tanner Welding, Christian Dunn, Christopher Bush, Kyle Heithoff, Kelsey Welding, Tera Henkenius, Ethan Fisher, Sharla Schindler, Tyler Smith, Truman Copeland, and Lisa Dohmen.

By Kyle Heithoff

Check out our website: www.elgineagles.org

Fifth Grade Spells Success



The 2014-2015 5th grade class is pictured with their word of the year. This year they have decided to use the word SUCCESS. They want to make sure they have success in whatever they are doing in 5th grade. Lets be successful this year 5th grade and be able to look back in May and say you were a SUCCESS!!

*The only person who can limit
your possibilities is you.*

---Jon Gordon

FITNESS TESTS



The first full week of school is when elementary students take their fitness test. They complete push-ups, sit ups, pull ups, and time a two lap run around the track in the fall and again in the spring to see how much they have increased throughout the year.

SCHOOLMASTER PASS SYSTEM



Upon enrollment at Elgin Public School, each student is assigned an ID number and PASS PIN.

This information is used to access your student's school progress on our Schoolmaster PASS system.

Go to our EPS website:

www.elgineagles.org

and click on Schoolmaster. Type in your student's ID and PIN. Now click on the view you wish to see.

If you have any questions or difficulties, please call or e-mail Paula Jensen in the main office. 843-2455



Kindergarten may be in small in stature, but they are big in numbers! The Kindergarten Class at Elgin Public School is the largest class this year with 18 members!

Third Grade Set To Go



The 2014-2015 third grade class is off to a great start! We spent the first days of school learning class rules, making time capsules, and getting back into school day routines.

SECOND GRADE HAS NEW FACES



Look Whoo's In First Grade

Front row: Creighton, Aiden, Grady, and Alison
Middle row: Madisen, Mario, Emma, Logan, Jacorey, Jonathan, and Nick
Back row: Jayda, Taytum, Kyndal, Kayton, and Ryan

Alumni Banquet Held

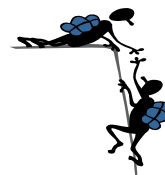


Bessie Hawks oldest alumni (and Elgin resident) at her 85th reunion .

It was a larger turnout for the annual EHS Alumni Banquet. 2014 saw the return of the banquet to the school gym after air conditioning was installed last year. Check out the Alumni section of the school webpage for more photos and details of the night's fun.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Attend a College Fair this fall!

Register for a barcode that will streamline your College Fair visit

During September and October, EducationQuest will sponsor six College Fairs featuring colleges across the state, region and nation. Attend the fair in your area to find the best school for you!

Before you attend, visit NebraskaCollegeFairs.org to register for a barcode. Print the barcode and take it to the College Fair. College reps will scan it to retrieve your information - and you won't have to complete their information cards. You should also register for a barcode if you plan to attend an Educational Planning Program (see article below).

2014 Nebraska College Fairs

Scottsbluff/Gering Area College Fair, Sunday, September 7, 1:00-3:00 pm – Gering Civic Center

Grand Island Area College Fair, Sunday, Sept. 14, 1:00-3:00 pm – Exhibition Building, Fonner Park

Norfolk Area College Fair, Sunday, September 21, 1:00-3:00 pm – Northeast Community College

Tri-State Area College Fair, Sunday, October 5, 12:30-3:00 pm – Marina Center, South Sioux City

Lincoln Area College Fair, Sunday, October 19, 1:00-3:00 pm – Southeast Community College

Omaha Area College Fair, Sunday, October 26, 1:00-4:00 pm – University of Nebraska at Omaha

For more details and for a list of colleges that will participate in each fair, see the [College Fair article](#) at EducationQuest.org.

Meet with college reps at an Educational Planning Program

If you can't make it to a College Fair, attend an [Educational Planning Program \(EPP\) at an area school](#). These "mini college fairs" feature state and regional colleges along with college planning information. If you plan to attend an EPP, visit NebraskaCollegeFairs.org to register for a barcode. Print the barcode and take it to the event so that college reps can scan it.

Senior students and parents...start preparing for college admission!

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

- 1. Contact your top colleges NOW** and ask about application deadlines for admission, college-based scholarships and financial aid.
- 2. Visit with college representatives** at College Fairs, Educational Planning Programs, during campus visits, and when they visit your high school.
- 3. 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.

Do it. Track it. Earn it.

The start of the school year is a great time to get involved in school activities. Track your activities throughout high school as they may help you qualify for certain scholarships. A great tool to use is our [Activities Resume](#) at EducationQuest.org. Want to see what three students are doing to earn future scholarships? Check out our ["Do it. Track it. Earn it." video!](#)

September "To Do" List

Juniors and seniors ... complete these college planning tasks during September:

- __ Attend a College Fair or Educational Planning Program (EPP) in your area.
- __ Before you attend a College Fair or EPP, register for a barcode at NebraskaCollegeFairs.org.
- __ Seniors, [register](#) by September 12 for the October 11 SAT.
- __ Seniors, [register](#) by September 19 for October 25 ACT.
- __ Juniors, ask your school counselor about PSAT registration deadlines and test dates.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Kearney	Lincoln	Omaha
308-234-6310	402-475-5222	402-391-4033
800-666-3721	800-303-3745	888-357-6300

EducationQuest.org

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)

Your Journey to College Begins with Us

Music Notes

There are lots of exciting changes happening this year in the music room, especially in the area of technology usage. Grades K-6 will be using a brand new curriculum this year called MusicPlay, which requires no books, but instead



uses PowerPoint's and QuickTime videos to help students learn how to sing and play instruments. Using this format, the students will be

reading and singing music before they realize that they are reading music, allowing them to experience a musical idea before learning what that idea is. This resembles how we learn our own language from a young age, and results in a more thorough understanding of music.

We will also be using technology on the junior high and high school side of music as well. The junior high will be using two new computer programs called Auralia and Musition. These programs include a complete music theory and ear training curriculum, which will familiarize students with key musical vocabulary and terms, as well as helping to tune their ear to very fine musical details. All band members, grades 5-12, will also be using a program called SmartMusic. SmartMusic is a practice aid program that will record and score a student's individual practice outside of class, and will allow us to learn new music faster!

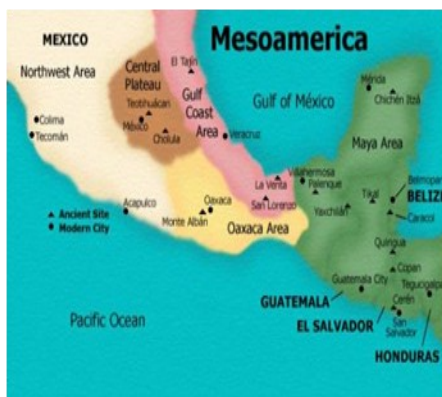


Make sure to come to the many different musical events this year, including the pep band at home football and basketball games, the Marching Band in Norfolk on September 27th and Grand Island on October 4th, as well as the K-12 Christmas Concert on December 15th!

Jr. High Spanish

There is an old saying that goes something like this: It is impossible to learn about a culture if you do not understand its language, and it is impossible to learn a language if you do not understand its culture.

The Jr. High Spanish class is getting a glimpse into what this really means. We are exploring the cultures of Latin America this semester, both ancient and modern. Along the way we hope to learn a little more about our own culture, too.

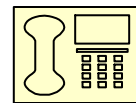


Is there money in your lunch account?

Your balance must be a positive balance before you check out of school on the last day. Let's help to keep our costs of postage down by paying in advance for meals. Thank you!

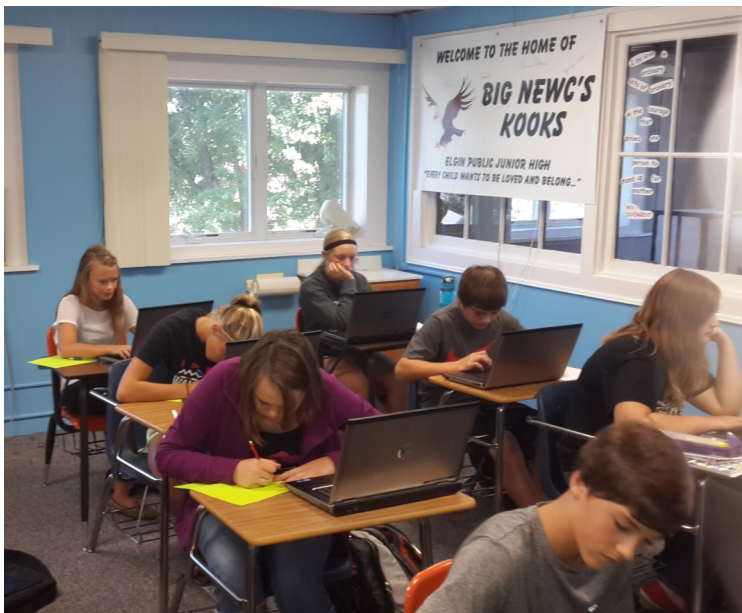
Blackboard Connect Update

Does the school have your current phone numbers and e-mail address?



In order to use our Blackboard Connect calling system, we must have current numbers. If your phone number, cell phone, or e-mail has changed, please call the school to update our information.

THANKS!



Mr. Newcomb is feeling the blues!!

The middle schoolers walked into Mr. Newcomb's very blue classroom this year. Hopefully they will feel a sense of energetic calm this year. The seventh grade gets to spend 3 or 4 periods each day here. I hope they enjoy it.

Please feel free to drop by and check it out!

ECONOMICS CLASS

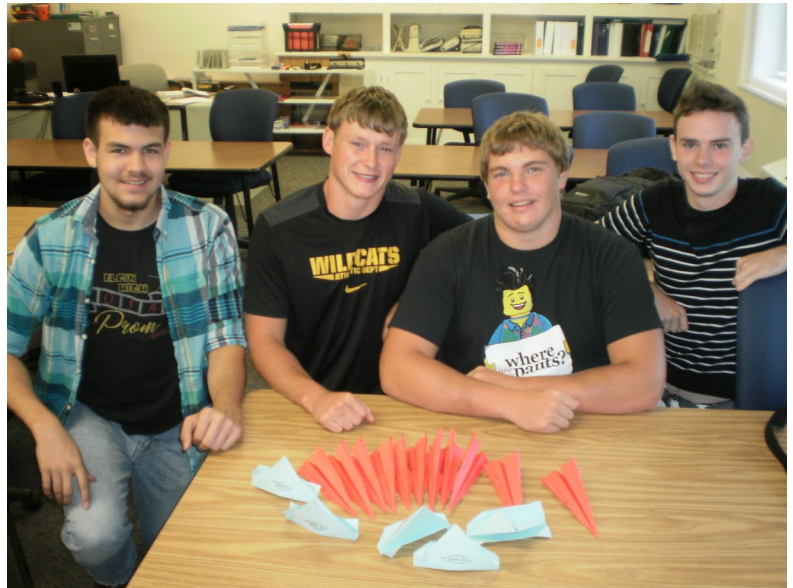
Students in economics class learned about the three basic economic questions:

- 1) What will be produced with the limited resources?
- 2) How will the goods and services be produced?
- 3) For whom will the goods and services be produced?

With paper, a marker, scissors, and a ruler, students had to decide **WHAT** product they should produce. Group 1 decided to produce a paper airplane and group 2 decided to produce a paper hat. After choosing the product, the groups had to decide **HOW** to produce the product. Next, students were given about 10 minutes to produce as many products as possible.

After producing the products, students realized a problem existed. The amount of products they produced was not enough to meet the demand. Therefore, they had to decide **WHO** should get the products. After much discussion, both groups decided that they believe the highest bidders should get the product. Therefore, they chose how to allocate their goods.

With the three questions answered, a basic economy was formed in the classroom.



Truman Copeland, Kyle Heithoff, Christopher Bush, & Tyler Smith fly into Economics.

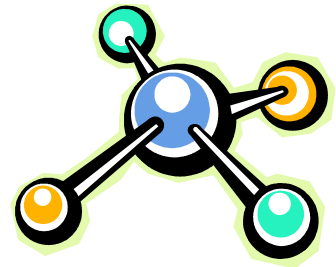
Science Fair—March 24th



Students in 8-12th grade will once again be doing a science fair project. Now I know what you are thinking, "Why are we talking about this now; science fair doesn't start until after Christmas." This year will be a little different. Instead of rushing through our projects, we are going to spend all year working on them.

Starting 1st quarter, the young scientists will have to have a topic chosen, their purpose written, research completed, and their hypothesis ready for grading. During 2nd Quarter will be the bulk of the testing. After students design their experiments, many tests will be taking place outside, in the science classroom, and maybe even at home. After Christmas there will be less on our plates. All the data recorded will need to be analyzed, concluded and then summarized in the abstract. 4th Quarter will be simple; students will work on the presentation part of science fair. They will create a poster to display at the science fair, participate in the school science fair, and write a reflection about the year. Also during 4th quarter, students will have a chance to participate in the regional science fair competition that is held at Wayne State College.

So get on board with your science students and ask them questions about science fair. During parent teacher conferences, you may come see what your child already has started. Let this be the best year yet, for science fair projects!



.....
Don't forget - Parent-Teacher Conferences Sept. 16th

Elgin Early Learning Center

The Preschoolers are off to a great start! We are settling into our routine and are ready for an awesome year!



4-Year Olds Attend Morning Sessions



3-Year Olds Attend Afternoon Sessions



*Here We Go!
Have an awesome year,
6th Graders*



September FFA Events!

September will once again be a very busy month for the Elgin FFA. Range judging practices will be after school and after sports practices like they have been in the past. Members wanting to participate in our two district range contests and the state contest will have to come to three of the four practices. The contest dates are: September 11th - District X Contest in Holt County, September 18th - Area District Contest in Holt County, and September 24-25 is the state contest near North Platte, NE.

On Sunday, September 7th the FFA and the Neligh Shooting Club will once again hosts the Blue Rock Shoot. This will begin at 1pm at the Neligh shooting range and anyone. any age is welcomed to come!

On September 19th the Ag Education and FFA will be having a Farm Safety Day. Students from St. Boniface and EPS elementary will have the opportunity to come over to the agriculture shop and parking lot to learn about some hazards found around a farm, ranch and even in their own house as well as check out some machinery. Any other parents or daycare providers that would like to bring up their young ones are certainly welcome to. Please contact EPS schools to let Mrs. Schwartz know if you plan to do so.

FFA dues will also be collected this month. Each member owes \$20.00 to the Elgin FFA Chapter by September 26th. These dues help pay for our district, state, and national dues and helps out when the chapter has supper during evening meetings. Along with dues, each member is required to have their parents/guardians fill out our chapter rules and bylaws agreement sheet and a medical release form. This year we ask the members to have these turned back in to Mrs. Schwartz before September 11th.



FFA OFFICER SUMMER RETREAT

This past summer the 2014-2015 Elgin FFA officer did a little something different, they went on an "officer retreat". Officers; Jon Meis, Trey Baum, Taven Cameron, Alois Warner, Dylan Widger, Dylan Behnk, Kelsey Welding, and Advisor Mrs. Schwartz went camping at Ponca State Park. This retreat was a two day trip in which the team discussed the upcoming school year by setting goals for the chapter, discussing rules, and going over expectations. This was also a time for the officers to just relax and have fun.

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.



Magazine Sales

We have started the 2014 version of magazine sales!! This is the only major fund-raising activity for individual classes!!! There are other items such as memory books, Christmas photo cards, digital subscriptions, etc. that can be purchased!!!

This year's magazine representatives are: Juniors: Dylan B., Sophomores: Jaime H., Freshmen: Liam H. Last year, we sold 250 orders but our goal for this year is 300 orders!!!

You can order magazines and other items through our web page (there is a link) or go to www.gaschoolstore.com. Our school code is: 2519304

F rom the desk of the Superintendent . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

Welcome back to all for the 2014-2015 school year!!! Things are off and running at a particularly rapid pace this year; or maybe I'm just having more trouble keeping up as the years pile up J. We are thrilled to have your students and future citizens back in the building. There have been several updates to facilities again and things are off to another very good start of the year. There was no faculty or staff turn-over as all employees remained at their posts. We are looking forward to another positive year of education and building relationships.

As you all read in every newsletter article I write, please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns at any time. We are always open to communicate with you should you have any questions or concerns. Just give us a call at school or if you would like you could even contact me at home. I'm very proud to lead this school and be in the Elgin Community and hope to be doing both for years to come.

BUMP! SET!

SPIKE!

Wolfpack Volleyball players
are practicing hard, getting
ready for season opener!

There are 29 players on the
team!



Everyone is Unique

The first day of school the fourth graders did an activity where they told their classmates one thing about themselves that they thought nobody knew. As we each did this, we passed a ball of yarn around the room. When one person shared, they threw the ball to someone else to share. We learned a lot about each other and in the process we spun a strong web with the yarn.

We discovered that even though we are all unique and special, we are all connected to each other like a web, because we are a class!

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgiineagles.org



Welcome Back!

Great kids + great teacher = a great school

The 2014-2015 school year has begun! As I enter into my second year here at EPS I am filled with optimism and excitement about the days ahead. We have a lot to be optimistic about here at Elgin Public Schools. We have a staff that is willing to go the extra mile for the students at EPS. The caring and professional approach that these staff members' bring to work each and every day can only help make your child's education be the best it can be. The great staff combined with a student body that truly takes care of one another can only lead to a great school and a great year! It is great to be back.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.
<p>If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.</p> <p><small>(Dugg and Brown, 1992.)</small></p>		
WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

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NEWSLETTER
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