



EAGLE UPDATE


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 XXXI, Issue 2


September, 2015


DATES TO REMEMBER

 **Sept. 7**
NO SCHOOL
 Labor Day

 **Sept. 9**
School Board Mtg.
 7:30 p.m.
 in ITV Room

 **Sept. 22**
Early Dismissal 1:00
p.m.

 **Sept. 22**
Parent-Teacher
Conferences
 3:30—8:30 p.m.

 **Sept. 23**
10:00 Late Start



East Coast Adventure

We spent four days and three nights in Washington D.C. and New York City. The main highlights of our trip probably included "Mamma Mia" the Broadway musical, exploring the Smithsonian Museums and guided tours of some of the most famous and historical places in the nation.

One of the most touching or heartfelt places was probably the 9/11 Memorial site and that, to us, stood out as one of the most important parts of New York City. Right when we touched foot on that memorial site, everything was quiet. Earlier, before going to the 9/11 memorial site our tour

guide Steve told us on our bus that he had a friend that was killed in one of the towers, and was hoping we would be able to locate his name on the memorial. Once we got to the memorial I offered to help Steve go to the computer system and look up where his friend would be located on the memorial. It really hit me once we found the name, and had a moment of silence...9/11 didn't impact me a whole lot till I went to the memorial and realized just how many lives were taken...

My favorite part of the trip was probably visiting the Statue of Liberty. When we were in line for the ferry I probably heard four or five different accents around me. It was just amazing how big of an attraction it really is to people all over the world. We listened to an audio tour guide while touring the Statue of Liberty and it was pretty cool to learn that the smallest fingernail on the statue is as long as a human arm. That is one of the many facts that have stuck with me since our trip.

Eight of us students from the class of 2016 went on the trip. I was the only girl, besides our two sponsors Mrs. Dolezal and Miss. J. To be eligible to go on our East Coast Trip, we had to work concession stand shifts, and complete either 18 or 24 hours of community service. There were a number of projects that we had to complete for our community service. Some of them included: landscaping the school, scraping the paint off the Bargain Box, watching the inflatables at the park during the Q125, and serving the supper during the Q125 Talent Show.

I would really like to thank everyone who took part in giving us the opportunity to go on this East Coast trip... I, along with the other students, most likely would have never gotten the opportunity to go to the East Coast otherwise, so thank you!

By Katie Polk



Students photographed by the White House are: (l. to r.) Christian Lundgren, Katie Polk, Dylan Behnk Austin Miller, Alois Miller, Blake Smith, Mason Vleck, and Dylan Widger.

From Mrs. Klein

STUDY ABROAD



Elgin Public Schools graduate, Andrew Heithoff, recently visited the Spanish III and IV class. He spoke about the study abroad experience he recently returned from in Greece.

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

Welcome to Third Grade



The 2015-2016 third grade class is off to a great start! We spent the first days of school learning class rules, making a time capsule, and getting back into school day routines.

Check out our website: www.elgineagles.org

From Mrs. Dolezal

What Science Means To Me

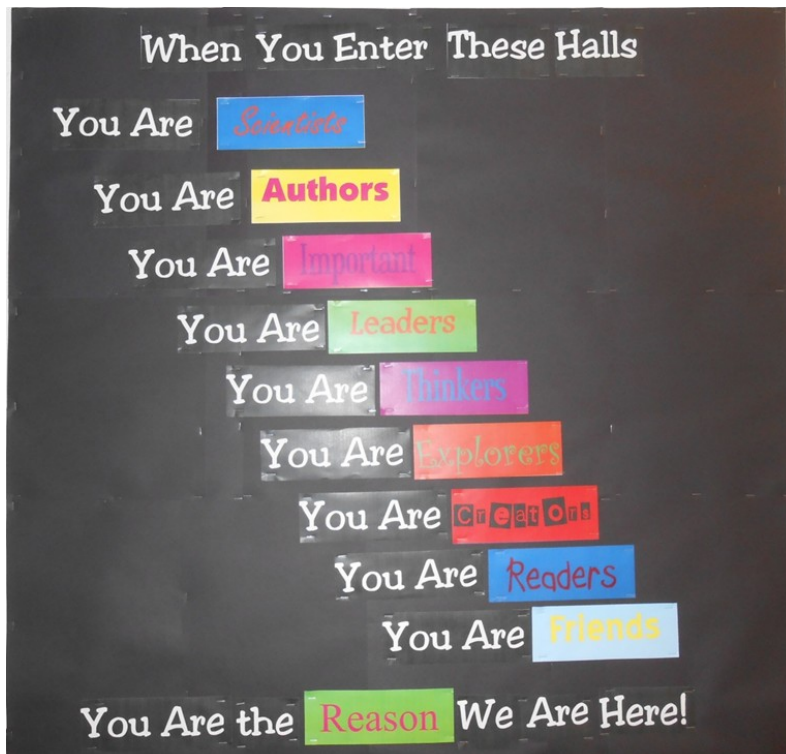
Many of the high school and junior high students were surveyed and asked what science means to them. Here are some of their responses.

To me science means...

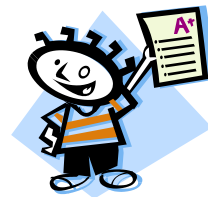
- ...life.
- ...expanding our knowledge of the world and everything that happens around us.
- ...Explosions.
- ...making new discoveries every single day about the world.
- ...doing exciting experiments and working in teams to solve problems while also learning at the same time!
- ...the study of all natural and unnatural things.
- ...learning about new things that you never thought possible.
- ...understanding the way the world works and discovering how to make it better.
- ...a way to unlock the mysteries of the world, and to make some really cool creations.
- ...a lot to me because it is my favorite subject.
- ...learning new things.
- ...the discovery of new things.
- ...finding new ways to do things.
- ...researching theories and laws so we can apply them to our own lives
- ...to learn and find out new things about the world.
- ...studying the nature of life.
- ...stuff happening causing other things to happen.
- ...learning about how everything in the universe works.
- ...studying of all living things, studying physical makeup of everything, and learning about all of the branches of science.
- ...a way to find out about how natural things in the world work.
- ...different types of experiments
- ...experimenting and doing different projects that are fun and also interesting to learn about.
- ...new findings and experiences.
- ...learning what chemicals will do with other chemicals.

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn

Welcome Back!



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.

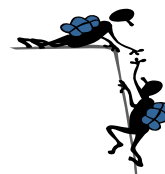
Go to our EPS website:

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

Counselor's Corner



Attend a College Fair this fall!

Register for a barcode that will streamline your College Fair visit

This fall, EducationQuest will sponsor six College Fairs featuring schools across the state, region and nation.

Before you attend, visit NebraskaCollegeFairs.org to register for a barcode. Print the barcode and take it to the 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 in your area (see article below).

2015 College Fairs

[Norfolk Area College Fair](#), Sunday, September 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Northeast Community College

[Scottsbluff/Gering Area College Fair](#), Sunday, September 27, 2:00-4:00 p.m. – Gering Civic Center

[Tri-State Area College Fair](#), Sunday, October 4, 12:30-3:00 p.m. – Marina Center, South Sioux City

[Grand Island Area College Fair](#), Sunday, October 11, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Pinnacle Bank Expo Center

[Lincoln Area College Fair](#), Sunday, October 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Southeast Community College

[Omaha Area College Fair](#), Sunday, October 25, 1:00-4:00 p.m. – 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.
4. **Ask if your school is holding an [Apply2College event](#) this fall.** If so, you can complete your college applications during the school day and get help from school, college and community volunteers.

What will go on your Activities Resume?

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 the [Activities Resume](#) at EducationQuest.org. It's now mobile-friendly so you can update your resume via your mobile device.

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 3 for the October 3 SAT.
- ___ Seniors, [register](#) by September 18 for October 24 ACT.
- ___ Juniors, ask your school counselor about PSAT registration deadlines and test dates.

.....
Don't forget - Parent-Teacher Conferences Sept. 22nd

From Mrs. Zwingman

Tips from the Resource Room

The best way to start out the school year is to be ORGANIZED. Take the extra time to organize and get binders and notebooks labeled with dividers, etc. Also, with the new homework policy in place the assignment books are going to be more important than ever. Please make sure you are taking the time to write down each assignment in each class immediately when the teacher assigns it. It allows you to use your time more wisely.

Good luck and have a great school year.

From Mrs. Thorberg

Sixth Grade News

6th graders have a new student, Trinity Graham. Welcome to our class, Trinity.

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

Yearbooks For Sale

2016 Yearbooks are still available for \$30. Send a check (Elgin Public Schools) or cash to order your lifetime of memories.

From Mrs. Vanis

Preschool News

The Preschoolers are off to a great start! Everyone had a great summer and we are all ready for an awesome school year! We are settling into a routine! This year we have 13 students in the 4 year old class and 18 three year olds in the afternoon.

From Mr. Mlinar

Manage Your Digital Footprint



The freshmen are focused on how to become better online citizens in Computer Apps class. During the unit, we talk about being responsible online, creating strong passwords, managing your digital footprint and much more!

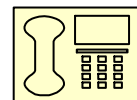


Is there money in your lunch account?

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!

 **Calendar Change**
October 6th is
School pictures!

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Title Meeting Held



The Annual Title Parent Meeting was held on August 13th during the elementary open house. Mrs. Thiele discussed what Title is and how it can help our students. Title I is a fabulous program created to give students that little extra boost they may need to be successful in school. As a Title I School parents are encouraged to be a part of the education of the students and be a member of our plan. According to "Boost Family Involvement," research indicates that parent involvement in children's education has a major positive impact on children's success in education. If you have any questions about the Title I program please stop by and visit with Mrs. Thiele at the school.

From Mrs. Gunderson & Mrs. Beckman

Movies, here we come!



The first and second graders had an opportunity to earn a trip to the movies by continuing to read over the summer. They participated in a Reading Scavenger Hunt.

These are the students that won a trip to the movies! They are Kayton Zwingman, Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Kyndal Busteed, Jayda Chessmore, (back row) Justice Blecher, Alec Kester, Libby Evans, Megan Wright, and Gemma Miller. Way to READ!!!!

From Mr. Prater

CIVIC DUTIES

The social studies students are back in the swing of things. So far the civics

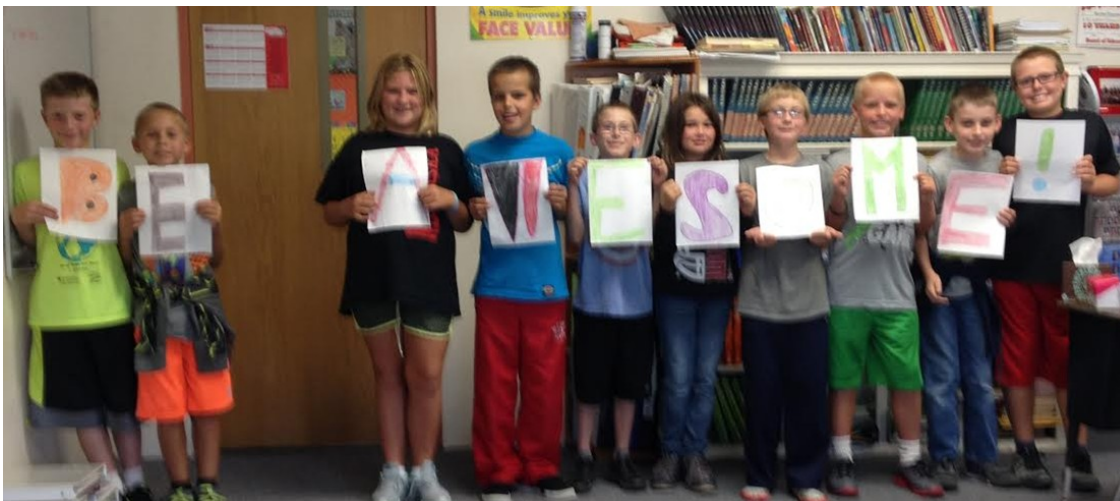


students have discovered what it takes to be a good citizen. As Americans we have certain basic responsibilities and duties to ourselves and our country. They range from following rules and laws that are government has placed for us; to making sure we stay informed on major issues. They also include volunteering, voting, and serving on juries. These students are very interested in this topic and can't wait till they can vote and do many of the other respectabilities mentioned. They also are wondering are you doing your part as an American?



From Mr. Eisenhauer

WORD OF THE YEAR



Fifth Graders have chosen their "Word of the Year"! BE AWESOME!



Follow us on TWITTER!

@ElginPublic

#elginpublic

From Mrs. Schwartz

Elgin FFA Annual Labor Auction



September 4th, 2015
Elgin Football Field
Following Wolfpack football game vs. Creighton

Seniors

Trey Baum
Dylan Behnk
Karissa Dicke
Tanner Dozler
Andrew Fangman
Lexie Heithoff
Kalin Henn
Chase Preister
Seth Schumacher
Alois Warner
Dylan Widger
Mason Vleck

Juniors

Zoey Bergman
Chad Bode
Kenny Bush
Geoffrey Carr
Austin Dohmen
Justin Funk
Elianne Heilhecker
Miles Schrage
Taylor Sehi
Liz Selting
Kelsey Welding

Sophomores

Taralyn Baum
Heather Bauer
Lydia Behnk
Liam Heithoff
Grace Henn
Cali Krebs
Marie Meis
Hayes Miller
Lizzy Mlnarik
Nicki Payne
Cole Preister

Freshmen

Joseph Bailey
Breanna Carr
Ervin Dohmen
Kaylee Martinsen
Hunter Reestman
Lauren Seier
Kyle Schumacher
Ally Wemhoff
Kira Widger

Thank your for your continual support that keeps our chapter on the road to success! If you will be unable to attend but would like to leave a bid or a donation you can contact: Julia Schwartz at 649-4254 or at the school 843-2455

From Ms. Siems



Students are off to a soft start to their kindergarten year with their new chairs.



From Mrs. Druke

Request a Book



The goal for our library again this year is to purchase new books that interest our students. This, in turn, motivates them to read even more. Once again, we welcome student suggestions when it comes to the purchasing of new titles.

The easiest way for students to give us this input is on the school's website. By clicking on the library's link, found under the academics tab, the form can easily be found and completed. Please keep in mind that the books suggested must meet our collection policy standards, but we are very grateful for feedback from our students.

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 2015 version of magazine sales!! This is the only major fund-raising activity for individual classes!!!

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

From the desk of the Superintendent . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

At the writing of this article we are just one week into school, several weeks away from approving a yearly budget, and a couple weeks away from our first extra-curricular contest. I am so proud to be entering my fourth year here at Elgin. Your board of education is a very conservative and student-centered group of people that have also committed to being progressive with education and keeping things up to high standards. It's a privilege to work for such a group. I have been working for boards of education in an administrative role since 1996 (at only 3 schools) and your group right now is as good as I have been associated with as they care about all employees, understand how an organization needs to function to be successful in the "big picture" and want to educate all kids all the time. From that leadership down through our amazing staff to our classified staff...this is a good organization that is on the right track.

Is everyone happy all the time and are there never any bumps in the road, so to speak? Uh, no, obviously not; but we are continually working to do the best for the district and the best for our students. Sometimes what one person or a small group in a 50 person organization wants or believes on a specific issue isn't what's best for the group. And yes, occasionally I might even be that one person, depending on the issue, but good communication and being surrounded with good people you can trust will help those situations to pass. You can tell a lot about a person by how they behave when things aren't going the way they want. It's easy to think things are all peaches and cream when it's going the way you want and work is easy.

We have done a lot of great things together and I look forward to continuing that process and those relationships. Elgin, some bigger some smaller, none better..... GO EAGLES!

From Mrs. Borer

Fourth Grade



Fourth Grade is ready for a new year!

*Back row: Brenna Martinsen, Blake Henn, Nicolas Anderson, Keyera Eisenhauer, Jacksyn Sehi
Front row: Aubreionna Clouse, Abriel VonBonn, Baylee Busteed, Brian Heithoff*

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Welcome Back!

Great kids + great teacher+ extra effort make an awesome school.

The 2015-2016 school year has begun! As I enter into my third 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.

One of the challenges that I have given the students this year is giving the extra effort to become the best all around students they can be. Crossing the line from mediocrity to excellence is a challenge that many of us face each and every day. It all comes down to four basic principles.

Choose to Commit. – Make the decision that you are going to make choices that will allow you to do things beyond mediocrity.

Work hard- good things never come easy. Pushing yourself to the limit in everything you do. Give more effort in studies, friendships, family, sports, activeness etc. IN ALL YOU DO-DO IT WELL

Focus- Eliminate distraction or road blocks that are holding you back from achieving greatness. Minimize exposure to negative people; their goals are not the same as yours. Eliminate negative thoughts; you can do amazing things as long as you believe in yourself.

Bounce Back- You are going to fall short at sometime throughout this year. Be resilient. Learn from your failures and become great.

If all the students and faculty follow these four principles we are not only going to have a good school year but a great school year. We will not have good students but great students. It's going to be a great year. EAGLE PRIDE!!



Follow us on TWITTER!

@ElginPublic
#elginpublic

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 399
Elgin, NE 68636

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #4
Elgin, NE 68636

POSTAL PATRON