



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 8

March, 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER



March 4
NO SCHOOL



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



March 11
NO SCHOOL



March 17
EARLY
DISMISSAL
1:00 p.m.
Student-Led
Conferences
4:00—8:00 p.m.



March 18
LATE START
10:00 a.m.



March 25
NO SCHOOL



March 28
NO SCHOOL

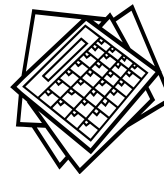
Happy President's Day

From Mrs. Siems



The kindergarten students celebrated Abraham Lincoln's birthday by creating Lincoln masks.

Plan to Attend:
Student-Led
Conferences
March 17th



Classes dismiss at 1:00 p.m.
Conferences begin at 4:00 p.m.
Watch your mail for your assigned
appointment time!

SCIENCE FAIR
THURS.
March 8th
6:30-8:30 p.m.



From Mr. Becker

From Mr. Prater

Jump Rope For Heart



PRESIDENTS' DAY QUIZ



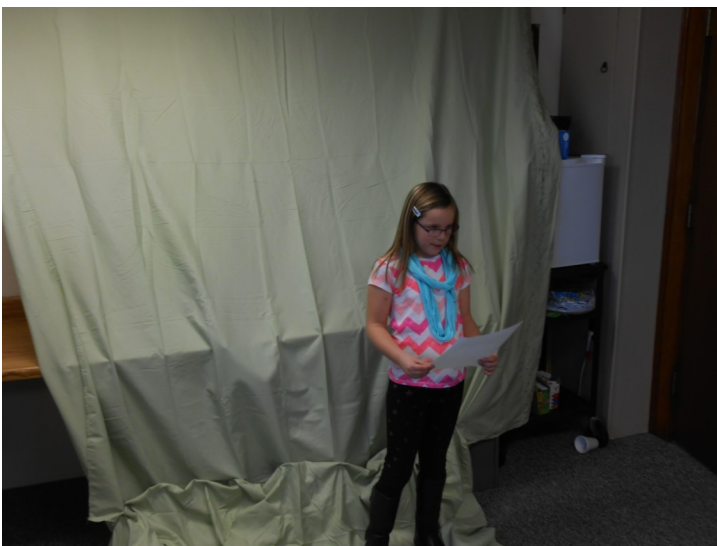
It's that time of year again February marks American Heart Awareness Month so Jump Rope For Heart has started in the EPS elementary P.E. classes. Students will be raising money that will be donated to the American Heart Association.

We start Jump Rope For Heart during our jump rope unit in P.E. Students work on single rope, long rope, double dutch, partner jump rope and other

(How well do you know our presidents?)

- George Washington's home was called _____.
a. Monticello b. Montpelier c. Mount Vernon
- In the winter of 1777–1778, George Washington helped his soldiers survive a hard winter at _____.
a. Lexington and Concord b. Valley Forge c. Yorktown
- Abraham Lincoln was President during the _____.
a. Revolutionary War b. Civil War c. Vietnam War
- Abraham Lincoln was assassinated while he was _____.
a. attending a play b. giving a speech c. riding a horse through Washington, D.C.
- George W. Bush is our _____ President.
a. first b. sixteenth c. forty-third
- George W. Bush's _____ was also President.
a. brother b. father c. grandfather
- Who is the only president who grew up as an only child?
a. Barack Obama b. James Polk c. Herbert Hoover
d. No president has ever been an only child.
- Who was the first president to be born a citizen of the United States?
a. Martin Van Buren b. George Washington c. Thomas Jefferson
d. John Quincy Adams
- Which president changed his first name from Hiram when he was in college?
a. Grover Cleveland b. Ulysses S. Grant
c. Thomas Jefferson d. William Clinton
- Who was the only president to be named a sworn enemy of the United States?
A. Richard Nixon B. James Madison C. Rutherford Hayes
D. John Tyler

Answers on page 3 of this newsletter



Second Grade Prepare for Student Led Conferences

From Mrs. Beckman

The Second Grade is getting ready for student led conferences. Mrs. Druke is helping us with an ipad project to share with our parents. The green sheet behind the girls will be used like a green screen the weathermen use during the weather broadcast. These pictures are Kyndal and Jayda getting ready.

Call to Register for Preschool

Elgin Early Learning Center will have a registration night on March 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the preschool room. Please call the school (402-843-2455) if you are interested in enrolling your child for the 2016-17 school year.



The preschool is divided into two sections with 3-year olds and 4-year olds attending at different times. Students who would be prospective kindergartners the following year will enroll in the morning session from 8:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 5 days a week. The charge for this

session will be \$450 per school year. Full payment can be made immediately or in monthly installments of \$50.

The second session would be 3-year olds and they would attend from 12:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. for four days a week at a cost of \$360 per school year. Full payment can be made immediately or in monthly installments of \$40.

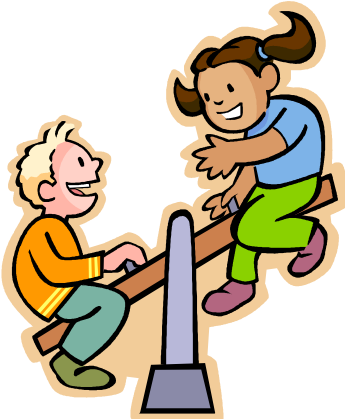
Midday transportation (drop-off for the morning group and pick-up for the afternoon group) will be provided within the school district boundaries. Preschool students may ride the traditional morning or afternoon bus routes if they live outside of Elgin and are in the district boundaries.

A child must be 3 or 4 years old by July 31st in order to enter the preschool. Classes are limited to 20 students per age group. Enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to children who live in Elgin School District #18. All children must be potty trained.

Tuition is not charged to those families that qualify for free or reduced meals according to federal guidelines.

To enroll your 3 or 4 year old for the 2016-2017 school year, please call the school office 402-843-2455. After student enrollment is completed, information will be sent to all parents about a registration meeting on March 21st at 6:30 p.m. This will enable parents to complete registration paperwork on their student.

If you have any questions or to enroll your child, please call the school office at 402-843-2455 during regular school hours.



OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2016-2017, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.

CAREER DAY



Geoffrey Carr practices his welding technique on the welding simulator at Northeast Community College during a career day held recently.

Answers to Presidents' Day Quiz:

1. c
2. b
3. b
4. a
5. c
6. b
7. d, All forty-three presidents have had siblings.
8. a, The other three were all born before the United States existed as a country.
9. b, Grant's parents named him Hiram Ulysses. The congressman who nominated Grant for his appointment to West Point mistakenly wrote his name as "Ulysses S. Grant." (The "S." was an abbreviation for Grant's mother's maiden name, "Simpson.") Grant kept the new name, but his fellow cadets called him "Sam." Why? Because "U.S." stands for "Uncle Sam."
10. d, Tyler joined the Confederacy when the Civil War began and was later elected to the Confederate House of Representatives. When he died in 1862, he was buried in Richmond, Virginia and was considered an enemy of the United States.

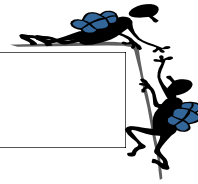
Kindergarten

**ROUND-UP
MARCH 31ST
6:30 P.M.**

EPS Kindergarten Classroom

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Have you completed your FAFSA?

If you haven't completed your [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and would like help, here are *free* resources from EducationQuest:

Webinar: Creating an FSA ID and Completing the FAFSA – listen in while an EducationQuest representative explains how to set up an FSA ID and walks you through the FAFSA. This webinar is offered on the following dates and times. Click the link on your desired session to register

Wednesday, March 2, 11:00 a.m. CT: <http://eqf.org/1mHCW8n>

Wednesday, March 2, 6:00 p.m. CT: <http://eqf.org/1RNBmyT>

Tuesday, March 15, 1:00 p.m. CT: <http://eqf.org/1R8jlc5>

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. CT: <http://eqf.org/218NAEE>

FAFSA Tools at EducationQuest.org – find videos, a checklist, and a tutorial.

Free personal help – call the location nearest you to set up an appointment. Omaha: 888.357.6300; Lincoln: 800.303.3745; Kearney: 800.666.3721; and Scottsbluff: 800.303.3745, ext. 6654.

What happens after you submit the FAFSA?

Expect your SAR

You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) acknowledging that your form was processed. Review your SAR for accuracy. If needed, make changes at fafsa.gov.

Did you use IRS Data Retrieval?

If you did not use IRS Data Retrieval to provide income tax information on your FAFSA, we encourage you to update your FAFSA at fafsa.gov and use the IRS Data Retrieval process. [Review this handout](#) or [watch this video](#) for instructions. If you don't use IRS Data Retrieval, your college(s) may require you to provide a copy of your IRS tax transcript.

Watch for financial aid award notifications

The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will provide a financial aid award notification detailing the aid they're offering. This may include a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans. Respond to each notification (most students accept all award packages until they make their final college selection).

Juniors: GoVisitCollege!

Visit colleges this spring so you can narrow your choices when you're a senior. [This short video](#) shows how fun campus visits can be! Follow these tips for a successful visit:

- **Explore your career interests** and then research colleges that fit your interests. See [Exploring Careers](#) at EducationQuest.org for free resources.
- **Check out college websites.** You'll find admission requirements, academic and social information, and photos or a virtual tour. You may even be able to schedule a campus visit.
- **Schedule your visits at least two weeks in advance.** Ask for appointments with an admissions representative, financial aid counselor, and a faculty member in your area of interest.
- **Visit while the colleges are in session.** You won't get the true flavor during breaks or finals week.
- **Be prepared with [questions to ask](#).** It's important for YOU to ask questions, not just your mom or dad.
- **Talk to a faculty member** about upper-level classes in your anticipated major. This will help you understand the coursework that will be required and the degree of difficulty.
- **Ask the financial aid counselor** how the college may offset tuition costs and about college-based scholarship applications and deadlines.

FOR THE LATEST IN
SCHOLARSHIP NEWS,
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
www.elgineagles.org

Helpful resources at EducationQuest.org

["Selecting a College"](#) walks you through college selection steps.

["About Nebraska Colleges"](#) provides cost and contact information for Nebraska colleges.

[College Profiles](#) has information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country.

March "To Do" List

Seniors

- If you haven't already, complete your FAFSA!
- Expect financial aid award notifications during March and April.
- Continue applying for scholarships.

Juniors

- Register by March 4 for the April 9 ACT.
- Register by April 8 for the May 7 SAT.
- Schedule campus visits.

From Mrs. Gunderson

F O O D D R I V E



On January 28, the First Grade held a Food Drive during the EPPJ basketball games. Thank you to everyone who donated food. All food was given to the local food pantry.

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Readng is based on 5 factors: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Encourage kids to read anything and everything! It doesn't have to be just books, from the cereal boxes to signs or even magazines or websites can engage children.

Ask the teacher for your child's reading level and find things for the child to read that are developmentally appropriate for him/her.

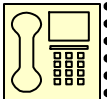
Don't say no to your young reader. If your child wants to read allow them to read and help them read. Also allow them to read what they want to read about!

Increase motivation setting up a place and a time for your child to read!

Need things to read, check out our local and school library. There is sure to be a book for your child!

Great things happen for children that read!!

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!

Snow Days



CALLING SCHOOL OR ACTIVITIES

OFF DUE TO

WEATHER is a very

difficult and somewhat controversial decision sometimes. Please be advised that if you EVER disagree with the decision and wish to keep your children home or have them come home that is completely within your discretion. Just let the school know.

Classroom Snippets ...

From Mrs. Klein

El Mundo de Español

We have been very busy this month in our Spanish 1 and 2 classes!

The vocabulary theme for our current chapter in Spanish 1 is family. The students were able to show their creative side by making family trees, and writing about 10 different family members (in Spanish, of course!) This was a challenging written assessment, and they really did a great job.



The vocabulary theme for our current chapter in Spanish 2 is clothing and fashion. To cap off our chapter, instead of having the typical exam the students are putting on a fashion show. They are working in small groups, each with their own theme for the show. We have everything from elegant to camouflage to "prom gone wrong." I cannot wait to see the final result, and hear the kids describe their outfits in the target language.

Third Grade NeSA Testing

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

Spring is a very busy time in the third grade classroom. The third graders will be taking the NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) tests next month for the very first time. Students will be tested in the areas of math and reading. They have been working hard in the classroom to get prepared. During class we have reviewed math and reading vocabulary daily to help us understand the terms that are used on the tests. The students have been going to the computer lab to familiarize themselves with the format of the test. Students have been completing practice tests both in math and reading to help ease any nerves. Please encourage your child to do their very best on



these upcoming assessments. Remind them to take their time, read carefully, reread for better understanding and to check over their

answers. Please remember to make sure your child gets a good night's rest before school and to eat a healthy breakfast to begin their day. A note and schedule of testing dates/times will come home at the beginning of April. Try your best and good luck third graders!

Upcoming Music Dates

From Mr. Heithoff



NVC Band- In Neligh- Time TBA- March 22nd
District Music Contest- Norfolk- All Day- April 22nd
High School Spring Concert- 7:00 pm- April 25th

Neligh-Oakdale Elementary Honor Band- Neligh- All Day- April 30th
Awards Night- 7:30 pm- May 10
Graduation- 5:00 pm- May 14th
Elementary Spring Concert- 7:30 pm- May 16th

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

Yearbook Sales

Stay tuned to the school webpage for yearbook information! We will start selling the 2016 Elgin Public and the 2016 Wolfpack yearbooks in March.

From Mr. Mlinar

Access

In Computer Applications, students are learning the basics about Microsoft Access. Access is a data management system that is used in many



businesses. In creating a database, students will learn the importance of

storing data, maintaining the database, and ensuring data security. It can be tricky to learn but the freshmen are starting to get the hang of it!

New Books Added to Library

From Mrs. Druke



We are excited to announce that several new titles have been added to our elementary library. Some of the elementary classes were introduced to these new books in their classrooms through a Google Presentation, which is much like a PowerPoint. To view a PDF or Powerpoint version of the presentation, go to the website listed below or use a QR code reader to scan the code.

Please note that the other article listed on the website is a form where students are encouraged to request or suggest new books. Suggestions are always welcomed and appreciated.



<http://www.elgineagles.org/vnews/display.v/ART/56c4afa50b8df>

SPEECH TEAM OPENS SEASON

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn

Speech season is in full swing, and the EPS Speech Team has made its debut. On January 27, the team opened their season with the Howells-Dodge Invite. Team members delivered several impressive performances, with many narrowly missing finals.

Alois Warner and Kenny Bush were crowned champions in duet acting. They placed first out of twenty-six duets. The OID of Dylan Widger, Morgan Carpenter, Leslie Linares, Lydia Behnk, and Kira Widger earned 6th place medals. They competed against twenty-two other OID's.

Superior ratings were earned by the following: Warner, Bush, Zoey Bergman, Taya Voborny, and Jaime Hoefler-OID; Katie Polk-Serious Prose; Voborny and Bergman-Duet; D. Widger-Poetry; Behnk-Humorous Prose; K. Widger-Poetry; Jaime Hoefler-Serious Prose;.

Shelby Dohmen earned an excellent rating in Humorous Prose

The team continued their impressive performances on Friday, February 12, at the Lindsay Holy Family Meet. Six events broke finals including both OID and duet teams. Team members brought home several medals from the competition. Overall, EPS placed fourth out of fifteen teams.

Receiving top honors for the day was the OID of Warner, Bush, Voborny, Hoefler and Bergman. They placed second out of sixteen OID's. The Duet of Warner and Bush placed third out of twenty-four duets. The OID team of D. Widger, Polk, Carpenter, Behnk and K. Widger placed fourth. Placing fifth was the Duet of Voborny and Bergman. Behnk's Humorous Prose earned a fifth place medal, and Hoefler placed sixth in Serious Prose. There were twenty-two participants in Humorous Prose and twenty-one in Serious Prose.

Other events saw drastic improvement, and some narrowly missed finals. Superior ratings were earned in the following events: Dohmen-Humorous Prose, K. Widger-Poetry, Brea Carr-Poetry, Polk-Serious Prose and Persuasive Speaking, D. Widger-Poetry.

Ingvild Bekkeseth earned an excellent rating in Entertainment Speaking. Coaches Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn are pleased with the team's progress thus far. "We're off to a great start, but we still have a lot of work to do to perfect and polish. We've got some tough meets coming up and we want to be prepared. We're proud of the efforts the kids have been putting in and are hopeful that they will continue to take pride in their performances."

The team will have this week off, but will be back in action the week of February 22 with meets at Newman Grove, Lutheran High Northeast, Pope John, and the NVC East contest the following week. Districts are slated for Wednesday, March 16.



Arcademics Cup

From Mr. Borer

The second annual Arcademics Cup has come and gone. Arcademics (academics in arcade games) is where they play games to learn memorization facts. Each year they have a national multiplication competition where students play Grand Prix Multiplication to race against their schoolmates and other elementary students in the U.S.

We had three categories that students could place in- accuracy, rate, and points. Mrs. Borer's fourth, fifth, and sixth grade math students participated.

Students with the best accuracy were Keyera Eisenhauer and Jack Wemhoff with 97% correct, followed by Ethan Hinkle, William Heilhecker, Erica Leistman, Nick Anderson, Donovan Grace, and Grace Mace with 96% correct.



Placing for most points (l to r) Third place: Ethan Hinkle First place: Jack Wemhoff; Second place: William Heilhecker.



Placing for the fastest rate (l to r) Third place: William Heilhecker; First place: Norman Grothe; Second place: Baylee Busted.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



MAP Testing

Twice a year students at EPS are administered the MAP assessments. Earlier this year (September) they were given the first of two assessments and next week these same students will be given the second round of assessments. The information below explains in a “nutshell” why we give this assessment and why it is so important to get the best effort from every student. Testing will take place on the following dates: **February 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th**. Thanks for your help and please encourage your children to do the best they can.

The purpose of MAP assessments . . .

- is to provide an instructional level of our students
- provides a road map for students toward achieving mastery
- to give information to help inform instructional decisions
- to give immediate data and dynamic, interactive reports for parents and teachers

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
- The computer adapts questions until it finds the student’s RIT level with an acceptable standard error measure
- 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

Listed below are a couple things that you as a parent can do to help your student prepare for the tests:

- Talk to your student about the test. Ask questions and let your student know you are aware of the tests and their importance.
- Help students get eight (8) hours of sleep. Being well rested promotes brain function and the ability to pay attention. Eat a healthy breakfast. Having nutritious foods prior to the test will allow students to focus more effectively.

For more information on resources for parents, download the *Parent Toolkit* at www.nwea.org under Partner Support. This is a great resource for a parent that is totally free.

Here’s An App For That!

Elgin Public Schools continues to be very progressive in technology for its students but also for the public and out patrons. We have a lot information and accessibility via the internet and our web page that allow for looking up students grades, lunch accounts and other information as well as news. Now we have an “APP” that you can download from the app store or google play. It is available for Apple and Android phone devices and tablets/ipads. This is a much quicker and easier way to get to your favorite school’s web information and destination rather than having to always use a browser. Happy internet surfing..... Go Eagles!



Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

This is something we are working hard at trying to achieve so that at a minimum a student has at least one staff member, though preferably several, that they have a positive connection with. We believe the positive impact will affect every aspect of their lives and development far beyond their school years.

Improving Students' Relationships with Teachers to Provide Essential Supports for Learning **Positive Relationships Can Also Help a Student Develop Socially**

Sara Rimm-Kaufman, PhD, and Lia Sandilos, PhD, University of Virginia

Improving students' relationships with teachers has important, positive and long-lasting implications for both students' academic and social development. Solely improving students' relationships with their teachers will not produce gains in achievement. However, those students who have close, positive and supportive relationships with their teachers will attain higher levels of achievement than those students with more conflict in their relationships.

Picture a student who feels a strong personal connection to her teacher, talks with her teacher frequently, and receives more constructive guidance and praise rather than just criticism from her teacher. The student is likely to trust her teacher more, show more engagement in learning, behave better in class and achieve at higher levels academically. Positive teacher-student relationships draw students into the process of learning and promote their desire to learn (assuming that the content material of the class is engaging, age-appropriate and well matched to the student's skills).



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For the latest in news, check out our website: www.elgineagles.org

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