



EAGLE UPDATE

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www.elgineagles.org

Elgin Public School
P.O. Box 399
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Elgin, NE 68636-0399

Volume XXX, Issue 8

March, 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER



March 11
School Board
Mtg. 7:30 p.m.
In ITV Room



March 13
NO SCHOOL



March 19
Early Dismissal
1:00 p.m.

Student Led Conferences
4:00—8:00 p.m.



March 20
Late Start
10:00 a.m.

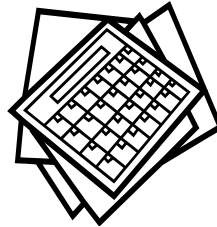
FOOD DRIVE SUCCESSFUL



The First Grade would like to thank everyone for helping to make our food drive a success. Special thanks to the FFA and FCCLA. We collected over 530 food items.



Plan to Attend:
Student-Led
Conferences
March 19th



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 26th
6:30-8:30 p.m.



Call to Register for Preschool



Elgin Early Learning Center will have a registration night on March 23rd 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 2015-16 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 \$50 per month. 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 \$40 per month.

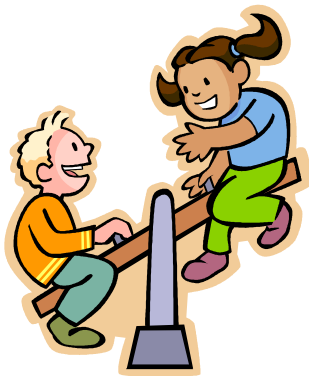
Midday transportation (drop-off for the morning group and pick-up for the afternoon group) will be provided within the school district boundaries. Preschool students may ride the traditional morning or afternoon bus routes if they live outside of Elgin and are in the district boundaries.

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 2015-2016 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 23rd 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 2015-2016, 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.

Creativity Abounds



4th graders made their Valentine boxes with the challenge to be creative! These two boys really used their imagination. Pictured above are Kristopher Moreno with his airplane and Ethan Hinkle with his basketball hoop. Well done!

 Kindergarten

ROUND-UP
MARCH 24TH
6:30 P.M.

EPS Kindergarten Classroom



**Don't Throw Away
That Empty Printer
Cartridge!
Bring it to school!**

Empty inkjet cartridges can be recycled and remanufactured. Our school will receive \$2.00 for each cartridge turned in. Bring in your empty cartridges (use a Ziploc bag to avoid ink spills) to the office recycle bin.

Kindergarten Celebrates President Lincoln



The kindergarten students celebrated Abraham Lincoln's birthday by creating Lincoln masks. We have learned that Abraham Lincoln is honored by having his face on the head of a penny and the Lincoln Memorial on the tail of a penny.

Kahoots, Quizlets, & Haiku Decks!

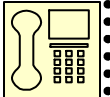
Kahoots, quizlets, and haiku decks, oh my! The third graders have been learning how to use some new apps on their iPads. One of their favorites is Kahoot. Kahoot is a game based response system where students respond with their iPad or device to quiz or survey questions that are projected on the classroom Promethean board. Some of their favorite Kahoots completed so far is a Groundhog's Day quiz, President's Day quiz, and a review of their science vocabulary words.

Quizlet is an app that is helping the students review vocabulary for the upcoming NeSA-Reading and Math tests in April. Mrs. Eisenhauer has created sets of vocabulary flashcards for reading, language and math. Students can quiz themselves in many different formats using the iPad.



Haiku Deck is a presentation app that the students are going to try out for the first time during student-led conferences. They are creating slides that will present information about themselves such as their favorite color, book, school subject, or food. They are able to type words onto the slides and then choose a background or image to display on the slide. During student-led conferences, they will show their parents the haiku deck presentation they created about themselves.

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

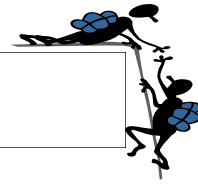


CALLING SCHOOL OR ACTIVITIES OFF DUE TO

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.

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



What happens after you submit the FAFSA?

If you submitted your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), here's what will happen next:

- **Expect your SAR** ----You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) acknowledging that your form was processed. Review your SAR for accuracy. If changes are needed, make them 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.
- **Expect a financial aid award notification** ----The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will send you a financial aid award notification (by mail or electronically) detailing the assistance they're offering. They may offer 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).
- **Keep looking for scholarships!** ----Many local, state and national scholarships have deadlines in March, April and May. For local and state scholarships, visit [ScholarshipQuest](#) at EducationQuest.org.

Juniors: It's time to start your campus visits!

Start looking at colleges your junior year so you can narrow your choices by the time you're a senior. If your school has a spring break, that's a perfect time to schedule a campus visit.

Follow these tips:

- **Explore your career interests.** Before you determine which colleges to visit, think about your career interests and then research colleges that fit your interests. Visit the [Exploring Careers section](#) at EducationQuest.org for free resources.
- **Check out college websites.** You'll find admission requirements, academic and social information, and campus 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.

Helpful resources at EducationQuest.org

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

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

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

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

We want to see your campus visit photos!

Share your campus visit photos with EducationQuest via Twitter ([@FreeCollegeHelp](#)) using #govisitcollege. We may use them in a future commercial!

Don't forget to apply for EducationQuest's Scavenger Hunt Scholarship!

Apply by **March 31** for EducationQuest's *Scavenger Hunt Scholarship*. You could earn \$500 toward your college education! Here's how it works:

If you haven't already, complete a profile in [ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org](#). *ScholarshipQuest* is a scholarship search tool with over 2,000 Nebraska-based awards.

If you are a Nebraska resident in grades 9-12, you will see the *EducationQuest Scavenger Hunt Scholarship* as one of the scholarships that will appear on your results page.

"Scavenge" around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions in a survey.

EducationQuest will draw a winner from those who answer all questions correctly. The winner will receive \$500 to invest in a NEST 529 College Savings Plan.

Second Grade Bucket Fillers



In elementary guidance the second grade students have been learning about being “bucket fillers.” Each student made a bucket for the bulletin board that described different ways they could fill other people’s buckets. They also made their own buckets for the classroom. Each week we take time to share the messages that are put in their buckets.

In second grade terms a bucket filler is.....

“Somebody who does good things for another person.”

“A friendly person.”

“Someone who makes you feel better.”

“Someone who is nice to another person.”

The second graders hope that everyone will be a bucket filler and not a bucket dipper.



**Experiment with Books
&
Discover the Love of Reading**

**Monday March 9th
Elgin Elementary School
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**



**Hope to see you there and everyone can enjoy
some time with books!!**

Classroom Snippets ...

Arcademics Cup

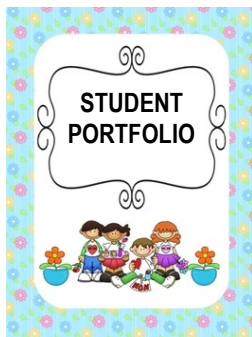


The Arcademics Cup, February 19th and 20th, is a national multiplication competition. It is a video game to practice speed with multiplication facts

where they electronically race a car around a track by clicking the right answer. 30 prizes are given for various categories from a \$50 iTunes or Amazon gift card to a free year subscription for their school. It is the first year for the fourth, fifth, and sixth graders to participate.

Study Tip from the Resource Room

Student-Led Conferences are right around the corner. So, this would be a good time to start going through and organizing or cleaning out some binders to gather papers.



The 2015 Yearbook Orders Are Online!

This year you may order your 2015 yearbook online. Go to the webpage and click "Academics-Yearbook". You will find an article with a link to the Entourage website to order your yearbook online. Your yearbook will be mailed directly to you.



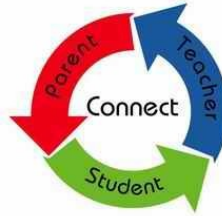
Or if you prefer the traditional method you may download the form at the bottom of the article, fill it out and send it to school with your check or cash.

Either way, order your lifetime of memories today!

Title, What is Title?

Title I is a fabulous program created to give students that little extra boost they may need to be successful in school. But if you have more questions or want to learn more about the Title Program, come to the Title Meeting.

Elgin Public School will be holding a Title meeting on Monday, March 9th at 6:00 PM in the Title room. This will be held before Reading Night and you will be able to learn about the Title program and how it is used effectively at Elgin Public School.



Learning to Write is a Process

On January 29, the eighth graders had a chance to demonstrate their descriptive essay writing skills during the NeSA Statewide Writing Assessment. Preparation for this task of writing an effective descriptive essay, however, has been a lengthy process.

The students have been instructed on the Six Traits of Writing and the various steps in the writing process from beginning to end. As a result of all this work, they now see the importance of each step in the writing process: brainstorming, planning, writing, editing, revising, and finally publishing a document that they can take pride in. They have been asked to demonstrate these concepts throughout this year in many writing assignments.



The students' writing skills have improved tremendously this year, and we hope that this success is reflected in this year's test results.

Math Problem

The answer to last month's math question was 324 tiles. We assumed that the grout distance was very small so it was ignored!



Try this month's question:

A total of 500 people attended an American Indian powwow. Admission was \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. If \$2,250 was collected for admissions, how many adults and how many children attended?

Answer in the April newsletter. Good Luck!

Band Calendars Are Back!

The Elgin Music Boosters will once again be selling Birthday/Anniversary Calendars for \$10 a piece! Forms (included in this newsletter) can be filled out and mailed to: (include payment)



Eric Heithoff
Elgin Public Schools
104 N 4th St.
Elgin, NE 68636

Families should list Birthday's/Anniversaries of immediate family only! (Parents of the household and children 21 and younger). To list any children over 21, an additional calendar must be purchased.

Check our website:
www.elgineagles.org for
more photos and
information.

Band Calendar Order form

No Superstitions for EPS Speech Team

Friday, February 13th didn't prove to be unlucky for the EPS Speech Team. At the Lindsay Holy Family meet, the team qualified five events for the finals round and brought home eleven medals. Competing against fifteen schools, as a team they tied for 7th place.

- Dylan Widger placed 6th out of 30 competitors in Poetry.
- Lisa Dohmen placed 6th out of 35 in Humorous Prose.
- The Duet of Ethan Fischer and Kenny Bush placed 5th out of 36 teams.
- Both of EPS's OID teams broke finals. The OID of Christopher Bush, Alois Warner, Kenny Bush and Jaime Hoefler placed 5th out of 20 teams.
- The OID of Dylan Widger, Taya Voborny and Zoey Bergman placed 7th.

This was the team's first performance since their season opener on January 28. The Riverside meet scheduled for last Wednesday was postponed due to weather. The coaches were thrilled with their team's performances.

"This was a very successful day for our team," said co-coaches Stacy Shumake-Henn and Jessie Reestman. "Typically at meets of this size and competition level, we are lucky to have one event break finals, so needless to say, we were very pleased with the outcome."

According to the coaches, there were some close calls in the rest of their events, all of whom represented the team well. The following team members received Superior ratings during the day: Bergman and Warner-Duet, Paige Nichols-Entertainment, Tyler Smith-Entertainment, Morgan Carpenter-Humorous, Dohmen-Poetry, and Hoefler-Serious. Katie Polk also received an Excellent rating in Serious Prose.

The team will have another small break before they embark upon the busy point of their schedule. The next meet will be at Newman Grove on February 25. The Pope John Invite will follow on the 28th. The NVC East Meet also at Pope John will take place that following Monday. The rescheduled Riverside meet will be held on that Wednesday. District competition will be in Ewing on March 18.

"We're performing well right now, but we still have some kinks to work out before districts," said Shumake-Henn and Reestman. "We are very proud of the work our kids have put in thus far. They are busy kids, and they make many sacrifices for their team."



Speech Team contestants at Lindsay Holy Family Meet were: (back row L to R) Dylan Widger, Ethan Fischer, Kenny Bush, Alois Warner, Tyler Smith, and Christopher Bush. (front row L to R) Coach Stacy Shumake-Henn, Coach Jessie Reestman, Taya Voborny, Zoey Bergman, Katie Polk, Paige Nichols, Morgan Carpenter, Jaime Hoefler, and Lisa Dohmen.

Elgin Public PASS System



Parents and students can access student's current grades through the EPS website:

www.elgineagles.org

Click on Schoolmaster and enter the student ID number and PIN. If you have questions, please call the school.

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

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 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th**. 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.

Spanish Literature

Literature has taken over the Spanish classroom! The Spanish 3 and 4 classes are in the middle of the epic story of *El Cid Campeador*, the national hero of Spain. The story covers an important part of Spanish history and introduces the students to new grammar concepts at the same time.

This week the Spanish 2 class has been introduced to Mexican legends and how important they are to the Mexican culture. As a way to connect a little more to our lesson, the students are writing their own “Legends of Elgin” in Spanish. Thus far we have the story of the Laser cats trying to take over the universe; the warrior, his enemy’s apple tree and a horrific fire; the forbidden love that created the football field; and a few more. This is turning into a much bigger entity than I had first anticipated!

Spanish 1 just finished up a chapter on clothing, shopping, and stem-changing verbs. They will move onto the world of Latin and Spanish cuisine next week.



Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

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 are proud to let you know we will soon have an “APP” that you can download from the app store or google play. It will be available for Apple and Android phone devices and tablets/ipads. This will be 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!



Watch our website and future newsletters to know when the “APP” will be available. Any comments, concerns or questions about this article or any other school business or information, please don’t hesitate to give us a call.



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