



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 XXXIV, Issue 8

March, 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER

From Mrs. Schwartz

-  **March 2nd**
NO SCHOOL
Girls State Basketball
-  **March 9th**
NO SCHOOL
Boys State Basketball
-  **March 13th**
School Board Meeting
6:30 pm– ITV Room
-  **March 14th**
Preschool/
Kindergarten
Registration Night
6:30/7:00 pm
-  **March 15th**
End of 3rd Quarter
-  **March 16th**
EPS Solo Contest
Music Room
-  **March 19th**
1:00 OUT
PT Conferences
-  **March 19th**
NVC Band
7:00 Concert
EPS Gym
-  **March 20th**
10:00 LATE START
-  **March 22nd**
State Speech in
Kearney



Elgin FFA Members 2018-2019 School Year.

Back Row Left to Right: Hunter Reestman, Kyle Schumacher, Blake Hupp, Austin Bauer, Colton Wright, Lane Bartak, Adam Dreger, Alyssa Burenheide, Tyler Iburg
Third Row Left to Right: Kira Widger, Joey Getzfred, Norman Grothe, Natalie Bauer, Kirsten Krebs, Lexi Bode, Talena Woodard, Cade Heithoff, Cory Romej, and Jordan Lindgren.
Second Row Left to Right: Haley Zegers, Kaylee Martinsen, Faith Kinney, Marissa Preister, Allyson Selting, Araceli Palmer, RJ Lierman, River Romej, Kali Dworak.
Front Row Left to Right: Allyson Wemhoff, Lauren Seier, Harlie Bode, Theanna Dunn, Olivia Lindgren, Jessica Getzfred, Breanna Carr, Emily Mlnarik, Mrs. Schwartz

These Five Seniors will be receiving their Nebraska State FFA Degree's during the Nebraska State FFA Convention in April. Pictured are Hunter Reestman, Kyle Schumacher, Allyson Wemhoff, Kaylee Martinsen and Lauren Seier

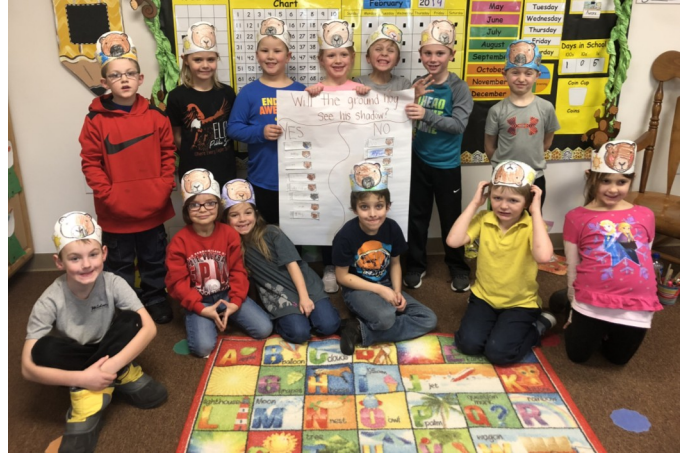


From Mr. Childers



Pictured above are the remnants of the popsicle bridges that the integrated science students built. Student were tasked with constructing a bridge that would hold 20 pounds with no more than 200 popsicle sticks! Araceli's held over 100 pounds!

From Mrs. McClellan



On February 1st, the first graders celebrated Groundhog's Day! They read groundhog stories, made groundhog day predictions, and did a few groundhog crafts. They are hoping Punxsutawney Phill's prediction is correct and there will be an early Spring!

From Mr. Becker



1st and 2nd grade did some parachute work in PE by playing a game called Sharks and Lifeguards!

From Mr. Ostransky



4th graders have been busy making journals like Lewis and Clark would have done on their expedition of the Louisiana Purchase.

From Mrs. Stearns

Miles of Smiles will be coming to **Elgin, March 19th, 2019**. Miles of Smiles is a school based Dental Program that comes **two times** a year to every elementary school, in the North Central District Health Departments nine counties. Fluoride varnish should be applied 4-6 times per year to be most effective. We will be sending home a permission slip in March, so mark your calendars!!



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 2018-2019, 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.

Call to Register for Preschool

Elgin Early Learning Center will have a registration night on March 14th 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 2019-20 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.

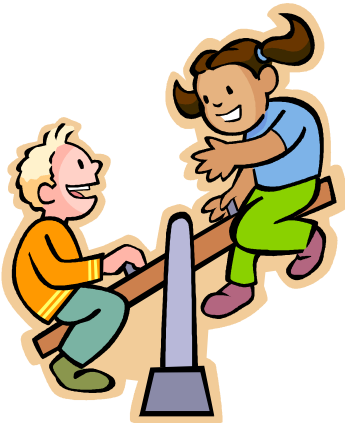
Midday transportation (drop-off for the morning group and pick-up for the afternoon group) will be provided within the school district boundaries. Preschool students may ride the traditional morning or afternoon bus routes if they live outside of Elgin and are in the district boundaries.


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 2019-2020 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 14th at 6:30 p.m. This will enable parents to complete registration paperwork on their student. Current shot record and birth certificate are required at round up.

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





ROUND-UP
MARCH 14th
7:00 P.M.

EPS Kindergarten Classroom

From Mrs. Wemhoff




Happy Groundhog's Day from Kindergarten

The kindergarten class celebrated Groundhog's Day by making delicious groundhog cupcakes. We made predictions and watched groundhog videos. It was a fun day and we are excited that the groundhog did not see his shadow. Spring is just around the corner!

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.



From Mrs. Rittscher Elgin Public School is participating in the Fridays at Northeast program this school year. Fridays at Northeast is an opportunity for high school seniors to take dual credit coursework on Fridays at the Northeast Community College campus, utilizing Northeast's lab spaces and classrooms.

This year, Leslie Nichols and Mary Nichols are utilizing the opportunity.

Leslie had this to say about the opportunity: "It is a good program that give you the opportunity to experience a bit of college before you graduate."

School Counselor, Sonia Rittscher, agreed, "One of the selling points of the program and its continued support by EPS is that the program is a good transition piece for students. It gets them on a college campus and allows students to experience a college classroom setting with college professors."

Leslie took the Nurses Aide course in the Fall of 2018. This course is designed to meet the Nebraska Health and Human Services System training requirement for nurse aide certification and employment in long-term care facilities. Upon completion of this course, the student is eligible to take the state written and practical skills exam. Upon passing the exam, the student's name will be placed on the basic nurse aide registry at the Nebraska Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, Credentialing Division.

Leslie is currently taking Medication Aide course. This course is designed to prepare the student to assume the role and responsibilities of a Medication Aide working in a nursing facility. This course includes information regarding medication administration, pharmacology rules and regulations, classification of drugs, orders, storage, abbreviations, and an overview of commonly used drugs and documentation.

Leslie described a typical class meeting: "Normally, the first thing we do would be to go over the last week's assignment and go over any questions if there were any. We would then take the quiz over the chapter we worked on the week before. After everyone takes their quiz, we would go over the next chapter and get our assignment. If it was a day we were to be in lab, we would walk to the lab (just down the hall) and work in the lab for some of the time, if not all of that class."

"Northeast's campus has more to offer than a typical high school to students like Leslie, who are interested in a health career. In Northeast's labs, Leslie can work with actual health care tools and instruments in addition to simulations and other instructional devices," said School Counselor, Sonia Rittscher.

Mary Nichols also travels to Northeast's campus on Fridays. Mary's coursework reflects one of her interests, which is to become a veterinary technician. She is enrolled in Animal Science and a lab.

Mary said that her class time depends on the weather: "Well each Friday is different, depending on the weather: If weather is nice then we will have our class inside and then go outside to work with the animals on the farm. If it is cold outside then we will spend the whole time inside and work on our assignments."

Mary's course is an introduction to the livestock industry and its role in food production, breeds and selection, reproduction and breeding systems, inheritance and genetics, shelter and facility requirements, nutrition, parasites and insects, diseases, and other aspects of meat, milk, wool, and poultry production.



From Mrs. Rittscher

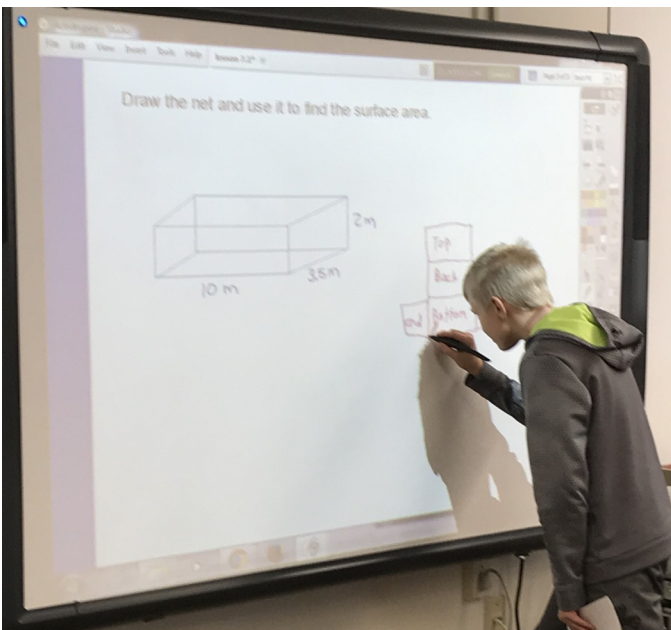
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Her course includes a lab that she'll gain experience working with all types of livestock at the college farm, which includes branding, castration, vaccination, foot care, and semen collection.

When asked if she would recommend other EPS students taking advantage of Fridays at Northeast, Mary responded, "Yes. There are a lot of courses that students can choose from that may be interesting to them. Also, it will allow them to obtain college credits so they will be ahead in their first year."

"The Fridays at Northeast opportunity is available to any area school, and I'm thankful that the EPS administration supports it," commented Sonia Rittscher. "It does take coordination, including students having to make-up missed work and getting them safely to and from Norfolk. In addition to being very thankful to Mr. Polk for getting them to and from campus, I'm also thankful that the teachers for their willingness to make it work for our students."

From Mrs. D. Heithoff



The 7th graders have been working on their geometry unit in Math 7. Gage is demonstrating how to find the surface area of a rectangular prism by drawing a net.

From Mr. Mlinar



Congrats to the EPPJ A and B teams! Both teams earned hard-fought wins over Neligh-Oakdale on February, 12th. Awesome!



On February 9th, EPPJ won the Misko Mania tournament in Ord. All three games were come from behind wins! Great job for keeping your heads in the game!

From Mrs. Zwingman

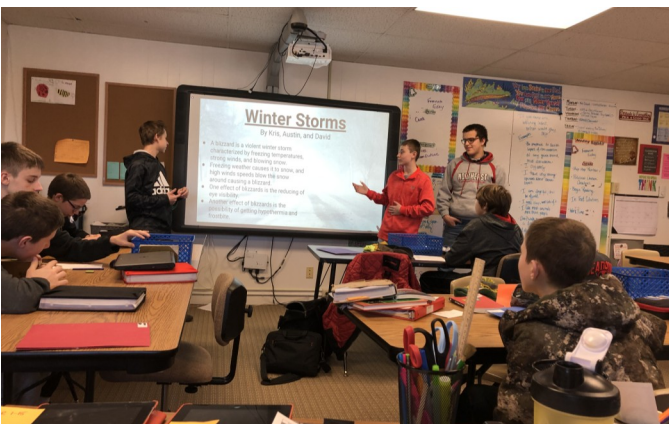


From Mrs. Lindgren

February has been a busy month! Algebra 1 students mastered factoring using FOIL and AC. They then used those skills to solve equations. Algebra II students figured out logarithmic functions, and have been working on analyzing rational functions. Statistics students are progressing independently on their coursework, but all of them agree that they are glad they have calculators and spreadsheets to help them avoid errors in their formulas. They now know how to do standard deviation for a sample and a population! Geometry students are finally done with triangles. We worked on trigonometry and transformations and are starting on areas and volumes. Calculus students are in the home stretch (only 2 chapters left). We got through derivatives, and now are reversing the process.

My CyberPatriot team got to compete in a bonus round of competition in February to help them work on their cyber-sniffing skills. I hope all of the students enjoyed this challenge. Next year, I will be more prepared, and will know how to prepare the students for the competition! On the computer science side of my class, students have been learning about the positives and negatives of "Big Data" and how almost everything they do is being recorded by something or someone. I know that the students enjoy the programming portion of this class, but February was spent working on issues programmers need to think about as they plan their programs.

From Mrs. Druke



The eighth graders have been exploring weather and atmospheric conditions this quarter during science.

From Mrs. Borer



The fifth graders decorated boxes at home for Valentine's Day!



From Mrs. McClellan

Thank You!

The FCCA members and Mrs. McClellan would like to thank everyone who bought candy grams.



From Mr. Heithoff



Eight junior high band members participated in the Stanton Junior High Honor Band on February 2nd. The band played four songs on the concert, including *African Festival*, *The Red Balloon*, *A Prehistoric Suite*, and *The Thunderer*. They learned a lot and performed some really difficult repertoire!

Band members included Brenna Martinsen on Flute, Baylee Busteded on Clarinet, Austin Good and Jack Wemhoff on Alto Sax, Myles Kittelson on Horn, Gage Thiessen on Trumpet, Brian Heithoff on Trombone, and Ethan Hinkle on Tuba.

From Mrs. Klein



This year at EPS March Madness doesn't just refer to NCAA basketball. We will be having our own "Mania Musical" in the high school Spanish classes. Students will be introduced to new Spanish popular music and videos; they will also receive a book with the lyrics of the songs so they can sing along. We will be voting on our favorites throughout the month, filling out the bracket. Research has proven how beneficial it is to use music in learning foreign languages, which is why I like to incorporate it as much as possible.

Upcoming Music Events



- March 16th– Elgin Solo Contest
- March 19th– NVC Band at Elgin
- April 12th– District Music Contest– Wisner
- April 15th– 7-12 Spring Concert– 7:00 EPS Gym
- April 27th– Neligh-Oakdale 5th and 6th Honor Band

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn



The EPS Speech Team recently competed at the Lindsay Holy Family Speech Meet. The OID team of Hunter Reestman, Adam Dreger, Grace Rittscher, Theanna Dunn and Kira Widger placed 3rd out of 27 teams. Rittscher also placed 4th in Humorous Prose from a field of 33 entries. Great Job, Speech Team! Best of luck in the remainder of your season.

From Mrs. Vanis



In celebrating FFA Week members of the FFA visited the Preschool classroom and made snacks with them. Thank you for all you do for us!

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 19th, 21st, 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

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

It's the time of year when our art shows are fast approaching. Our first show is the ESU#8 show at the Neligh fairgrounds. This year it will be a K-12 show instead of two separate shows for elementary and high school. The show opens Friday April 12th and runs through the weekend and is open to the public. The second show is our 7-12 NVC show. This year Elkhorn Valley schools is hosting the show at Tilden. The show is open to the public Thursday, April 25th.



Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



It has been one of THOSE kinds of Winters. There have been lots of tough decisions on late starts and whether to have school at all, even though we haven't missed as much school as in previous years. It's always difficult deciding what to do when mother-nature gets mischievous. No one wants to be unsafe but at the same time it IS January in Nebraska and we take not having school very seriously. With that said here are a couple things considered. When school is called late or not in session due to weather, I try to decide the night before as it helps parents make plans accordingly. I also rarely call a late start unless extreme cold or AFTER a big storm....If the weather is bad enough for a late start we usually just don't have school (again unless due to cold or after a storm). I know when I had children at home the toughest days were when we would get the call of a late start in the morning so had to figure out something to do with the children until then.....and then get the no school call later in the day and make other plans. So I try to make the decisions the night before and stick to them if at all possible.

Also, as we post in EVERY newsletter in the winter, if ever we have school in weather you do not want your children out in, simply call us and let us know. It will be an excused absence and they will be expected to have the work made up when they return to school. I am SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO ready for spring. Have a great rest of the year! Go EAGLES!!!

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. Don't forget that 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/lpads. 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!



2018-2019 NVC Academic Award Winners

This award is given only to Juniors and Seniors who have an accumulative
GPA
(Cumulative from 9th-12th grade) of 3.5 or higher.



FRONT ROW - Ally Wemhoff, Grace Rittscher and Ann Heilhecker
BACK ROW - Hunter Reestman, Garet Behnk and Kira Widger



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!

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

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