



EAGLE UPDATE

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Elgin Public School
 P.O. Box 399
 101 N. 4th St.
 Elgin, NE 68636-0399

Volume XXIX, Issue 8

March, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER



March 7
 NO SCHOOL



March 13
 School Board mtg.
 7:30 p.m. in ITV
 Room

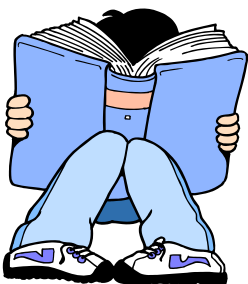


March 19
 LATE START
 10:00 a.m.



March 21
 Early Dismissal
 1:00 p.m.

Student-Led
 Conferences
 4:00 p.m.



ELGIN EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS DURING NATIONAL FCCLA WEEK



FCCLA members shown (back l. to r.) Dylan Widger, Zoey Bergman, Katie Polk, Hayley Stamp, Stephanie Bode, Madi Voborny, Hunter Thramer, Austin Miller (middle l. to r.) Austin Dohmen, Taya Voborny, Paige Nichols, Baylee Wemhoff, Avenley Short, Stevey Hatch, Lisa Dohmen, Jaime Hoefer (front l. to r.) Allison Koenig, Abbi Couch, Hannah Kerkman, Ivy Prater, Destiny Francis, Sharla Schindler

Elgin members of the Nebraska association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) joined more than 200,000 members in celebrating National FCCLA Week February 9-15, 2014. This year's theme was **“Exceeding Expectations.”** During National FCCLA Week, the members planned and carried out activities to show how FCCLA can help them achieve the ultimate leadership experience. The activities throughout the week included: Monday – media blitz day. A twitter account was created by the members for other FCCLA members and chapters to follow throughout the week. Tuesday members handed out “Oreo” cookies to students in study hall as a member recruitment effort. “Ore-you” ready to join FCCLA! Wednesday members recognized staff members for their support of FCCLA while on Thursday FCCLA members were recognized for their contributions. Friday rounded out the week with a “Red Out”, encouraging everyone at school to wear red in support of FCCLA. We also celebrated Valentines Day with our annual Candy Gram deliveries. Once again we want to thank everyone for supporting our project – it was not only fun but very successful.

Call to Register for Preschool



Elgin Early Learning Center will have a registration night on March 18th 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 2014-15 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.

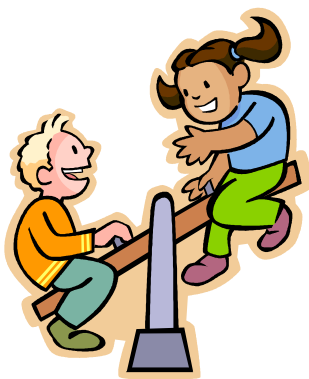
Midday transportation (drop-off for the morning group and pick-up for the afternoon group) will be provided within the school district boundaries. Preschool students may ride the traditional morning or afternoon bus routes if they live outside of Elgin and are in the district boundaries.

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 2014-2015 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 18th 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 2014-2015, 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.

Jump Rope For Heart

It's that time of year again. The 1st-6th grade will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart in the following couple weeks. All the money that is raised will go to the American Heart Association and if the students meet the goal we set for the whole school they will get to duct tape Mr. Becker to the wall and get to throw dodge balls at him at our "JUMP" party to be held in a couple weeks. Students need to have their money turned in by March 4th and anyone raising more than \$5 will get the opportunity to throw a dodge ball. If any student wants to do any online donation they can also go to www.heart.org/jump search for Elgin Public School to sign up and they can receive online donations.



Thanks in advance to all of those that donate and healthy hearts.



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

First Grade Food Drive

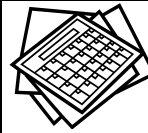


The First Grade collected food again this year for the local food pantry in celebration of the 100th day of school. Thank you to the elementary students and Affiliated Foods for helping us make our food drive a success. We were able to give the local food pantry several boxes of food.

4-H Speaker



February 13th Tessa Hain, a 4-H assistant at the Antelope County Extension Office in Neligh visited the second and third grades. She talked with the students about what 4-H is. She talked about different 4-H projects they could enroll in through 4-H. She also shared different 4-H experiences she had. She asked students that have been active in clover kids to share experiences they have had through 4-H. At the end of her talk she shared a book about 4-H. Each student went home with a packet to enroll in 4-H if they were interested. The students enjoyed listening to Tessa share information about 4-H.



Plan to Attend:

Student-Led Conferences

March 20th

Classes dismiss at

1:00 p.m.

Conferences begin at

4:00 p.m.

Watch your mail for your assigned appointment time!



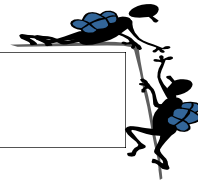
Snow Days



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 recently submitted your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), or will soon do so, 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, EducationQuest encourages you to use the "Make a Correction" option at fafsa.gov to use IRS Data Retrieval to input income tax data for you and your parents. [Watch this video](#) or [review this handout](#) 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).
- **Compare award notifications** Use the [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#) at EducationQuest.org to determine which school offers the best financial aid package.
- **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 you want to visit, think about your career interests and then research colleges that fit your interests.
- **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 your top college choices while the schools are in session.** You won't get the true flavor of the school during breaks or finals week.
- **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

- Check out these free resources at EducationQuest.org to help you find the right college:
- ["Exploring Careers"](#) links you to career assessment resources.
- ["Selecting a College"](#) walks you through steps you should take during the college search process.
- ["About Nebraska Colleges"](#) provides cost and contact information for every college in Nebraska.
- [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.

Apply for EducationQuest's Scavenger Hunt Scholarship – it's easy!

Apply by **March 31** for EducationQuest's *Scavenger Hunt Scholarship* for a chance to win \$500 toward your college education! You're eligible to apply if you're a Nebraska resident in grades 9-12.

All you have to do is complete a profile in [ScholarshipQuest](#) – EducationQuest's database of over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. The *Scavenger Hunt Scholarship* will show up on the list of scholarships you're eligible to apply for. You will be instructed to "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 that will be invested into a Nebraska Educational Savings Trust account (Nebraska's 529 College Savings Plan).

March "To Do" List

Seniors

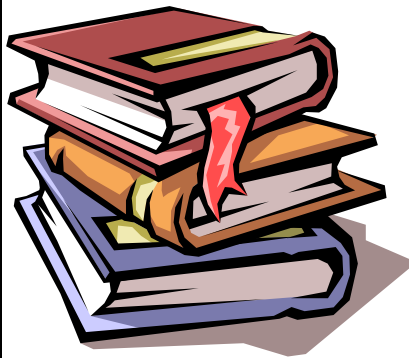
- ___ If you haven't already, [complete your FAFSA!](#)
- ___ Expect financial aid notifications during March and April.
- ___ Continue applying for scholarships.

Juniors

- ___ [Register](#) by March 7 for the April 12 ACT.
- ___ [Register](#) by April 4 for the May 3 SAT.
- ___ Schedule campus visits.



The JH Girls basketball season ended with an overtime win against Humphrey on February 12th. The game was a nail-biter for all 4 quarters. It was a great way to end the 2013-2014 season. Overall, the season was full of fun and excitement!



**Experiment with Books
&
Discover the Love of Reading**
Tuesday, March 11th
Elgin Elementary School
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
(The Science Fair following 7-9 in gym)



Come and listen to School Administrators and School Board President Laurie Waterbury read their favorite book!

Then students and adults will have many books to choose from to sit and read together!!

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



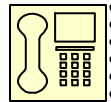
Grades 1 – 6 Participate in “Pennies for Patients” Project

This month, as part of the Elementary Guidance program students in grades 1 through 6 participated in a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. From February 4th through the 14th students collected money to help in the fight against blood cancer. The students each received personal donation boxes which they took home and collected funds to contribute to their classroom collection box. The school goal, set by the sixth grade class, was to raise \$450.00. Our students were awesome raising \$586.50.

Topping the chart with their donations was the 2nd grade class with a total of \$168.00. For their efforts they will receive a pizza party. Coming in second and third were the 4th and 3rd grade classrooms. The money raised through the Pennies for Patients project goes to help fund research for a cure, and help families for patients pay for medicines, the doctor and/or other treatment related expenses. As part of this project the students learn that the true reward is not pizza or ice cream but that of helping others.

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

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!

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
BOOK FAIR

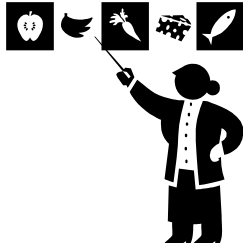
The Week of March 17-21
Times To Be Announced
Located in the EPS Gymnasium
Watch for posters and information to come!

SCHOLASTIC
Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.

Classroom Snippets ...

Life and Career Essentials

We started this class by discussing the nutrition groups on ChooseMyPlate.gov. We had to complete a project that tracked our food intake for three days. We used the Food Tracker on the Choose My Plate website to see how many calories we should be eating depending on the amount of physical activity we partake in. After finishing this project we had to choose and make a dish that contained at least 4 of the 5 nutrition areas. We called this experience in the kitchen a "pretest" because of our issues in preparing our dish. Our results turned out delicious, and next time we get to cook we will be more prepared.



Now we moved on to talking about small kitchen appliances like microwaves, hand mixers, and crock pots. We experimented with some quick and easy recipes in the microwave. Cake in a mug is very tasty and very simple to make in the microwave, as well as an egg McMuffin sandwich. We have discussed how small appliances work and the safety of using them. We are currently in the process of choosing an appliance to cook something for the class. We will present our cooked recipes to the class early next week.

Yearbooks



Be watching the webpage for the upcoming 2014 yearbook sales. We will begin in March and continue until the end of the year selling the 2014 "Flashback"

yearbook. This year's yearbook will go along with our town's Q125 by showing flashbacks to the past of our school. Yearbooks will sell for \$30 each. Order forms will be available on the school webpage or from a yearbook student; Stephanie Bode, Victoria Fangman, Tera Henkenius, Kelsey Shoemaker, Stevey Hatch and Tierra Thrumer. Be sure to order yours for a lifetime of memories!

Study tip from the Resource Room

by Kim Zwingman

One thing I have noticed with some of the writing assignments our students do is that they write what they are assigned to write and do not proofread it. Proofreading it themselves out loud is a good habit to get into so they can hear what their writing sounds like. It would also be a good idea if they could find someone else to read it over before submitting it to the teacher.

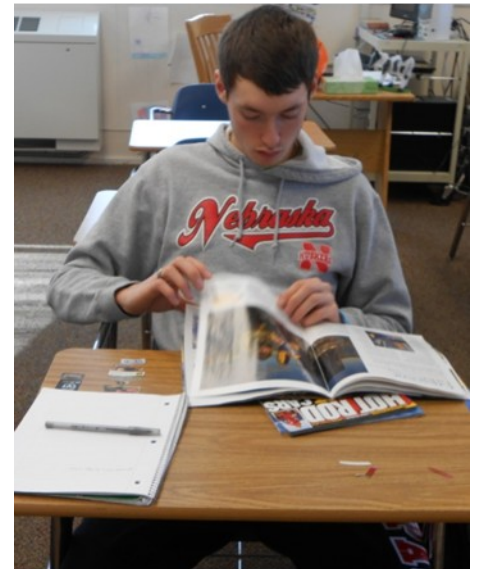
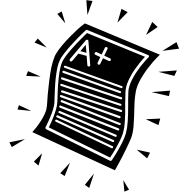


5th and 6th Graders to Compete



Recently, the 5th and 6th graders competed in a written exam in their classrooms to earn the right to represent EPS at the Antelope County Spelling Contest that will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at the 3:00 p.m. at the American Legion Club in Neligh.

The results are in and the following contestants qualified:
5th Graders: Skylar Reestman, Claire Kerkman, Kane VonBonn, and Theanna Dunn
6th Graders: Adam Dreger and Joshua Bailey
Everyone is welcome to cheer on our local spellers on the 25th. GO EAGLES!



Spanish 1 student Jordan Dietz working on his "Me Gusta/No Me Gusta poster."



Congratulations to seventh graders Kira Widger, Hunter Reestman, and Ervin Dohmen along with eighth graders Hayes Miller, Lydia Behnk, and Shelby Dohmen for being chosen to represent our school at the Spelling Bee in Neligh on Tuesday, February 25. Congratulations!

EPS Speech Team Starts Season with Success

by Mrs. Shoe

The EPS Speech Team is off and running.

On Wednesday, January 29, the team traveled to the Howells-Dodge Invite. Participants competed against some large schools and some tough competition. It was a great first outing, as we gained lots of experience. We also had some close calls as far as breaking finals. Superior ratings were earned by the following: Ivy Prater and Ethan Fischer-Duet, Ivy Prater-Entertainment Speaking, Katie Polk-Serious Prose, and Stevey Hatch-Extemporaneous Speaking. Those earning Excellent ratings were as follows: Allison Koenig, Hunter Thramer, Jamie Hoefer, Taya Voborny, and Zoey Bergman-OID, Lisa Dohmen-Humorous Prose, and Travis Grosserode, Christopher Bush, Dylan Widger, Alois Warner, and Kenny Bush-OID.

Friday, February 14, the team took their experience to the Lindsay Holy Family Meet, where three events earned medals. Katie Polk earned 2nd in Serious Prose, Ivy Prater received 4th in Entertainment Speaking, and the OID of Travis Grosserode, Christopher Bush, Alois Warner, Dylan Widger, and Kenny Bush earned 5th place medals. Superior ratings were earned by the



following: Lisa Dohmen-Humorous Prose, Paige Nichols and Katrina Gross-Duet, and Bailey Carpenter-Poetry, and Hunter Thramer, Allison Koenig, Taya Voborny, Jaime Hoefer, and Zoey Bergman-OID. Tyler Smith was awarded an Excellent rating in Entertainment Speaking. This was a terrific day for the team. Members saw vast improvement from the first meet, and some new events gained some valuable experience as well.

Tuesday, February 18, the team traveled to Cedar Rapids. At this meet, five

events broke finals. Ivy Prater placed 2nd in Entertainment Speaking, Lisa Dohmen placed 3rd in Humorous Prose, Katie Polk placed 4th in Serious Prose, Ethan Fischer and Ivy Prater placed 4th in Duet, and the OID of Hunter Thramer, Allison Koenig, Taya Voborny, Jamie Hoefer, and Zoey Bergman placed 5th. The team also had some close calls that narrowly missed finals. Tyler Smith earned a Superior rating in Entertainment Speaking, Stevey Hatch received an Excellent in Extemporaneous Speaking, and Bailey Carpenter received an Excellent rating in Poetry. In team scoring EPS placed 4th out of 13 teams. Again, the team had another good showing. This year, we have great kids competing, and we have busy kids competing, so it's been hectic getting everyone ready, but the results have been worth it.

This year's team is made up of the following: Seniors: Hunter Thramer, Travis Grosserode, Allison Koenig, Bailey Carpenter, and Ivy Prater. Juniors: Lisa Dohmen, Christopher Bush, Tyler Smith, and Ethan Fischer. Sophomores: Alois Warner, Dylan Widger, Katie Polk, Stevey Hatch, and Tiarra Thramer. Freshmen: Jaime Hoefer, Taya Voborny, Kenny Bush, Paige Nichols, Katrina Gross, and Zoey Bergman. The team is co-coached by Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn.

The team will continue competition with the Newman Grove meet on February 26, the Pope John meet on March 1, the NVC meet on Monday, March 3, and the D2-3 District contest on March 20.

Best of luck to the EPS Speechsters as they continue on with their season!

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*

Administratively Speaking . . .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



Summer project lists are beginning. The board is taking action on, and looking at, facility needs and improvements to be done this summer. Basketball season is over for the Wolfpack with speech in full swing and track to begin soon! It is UNBELIEVABLE how when you work with communicative professionals, in a great environment, with good hard-working kids and supportive parents, how FAST the school year goes by. If you are in education your goal is to make a difference; a positive difference in the lives of others, especially the students. I am confident with the people we have involved in day-to-day operations at the Elgin Public Schools, along with our board members, we are making a vital and positive difference in the lives of the our students. I'm proud to be an educator and more than that, proud to be an educator working in Elgin, Nebraska. I'm also still waiting for that one good winter storm; who knows, maybe not this year...???

Any comments, concerns or questions please don't hesitate to give us a call at the school.



On January 22 the kindergarten and first grade students celebrated their 100th day of school. They completed a variety of projects. These hats have 10 strips of paper with 10 dots on each strip for a total of 100!

National FFA Week Celebration 2014



In celebration of National FFA Week in February, Students drove a tractor to school.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Slow down! I was always told the older I get the faster time will fly, unfortunately this a true statement. Educators live from bell to bell, day to day, quarter to quarter and semester to semester and soon another year is gone. September seems like yesterday and I find myself today preparing for the last quarter of the year. The spring is a very busy time of the year; academically we have some very important business to take care. MAP testing will begin on March 11th and if all goes as planned will be completed by March 14th. This test is very important to my staff as the data collected provides direction for instruction of each and every student at EPS. Staff takes the data from MAP's and differentiates their instruction to meet the needs of individual students. For this test to be helpful it is important that we get the best effort from our students. Please encourage your children to give their best as it will only help Elgin Public Schools provide the best education for its students and allow Elgin Public Schools to be the best it can be!

What is MAP?

MAP is...

Measures of Academic Progress

Adaptive

Challenging, appropriate, and dynamic

Designed to measure student growth over time

Designed to be delivered more than once per year

Elgin Public Schools test all 3rd-11th grade students in the Fall and Spring

Aligned with Nebraska's State Standards (NeSA)

Allows teachers to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of each individual student.

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

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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POSTAL PATRON